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Japan

Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze Visits

Interviewed on Territorial Issue

OW0409152390 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1203 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze by NHK Moscow Bureau chief Kazuo Kobayashi on board the Aeroflot flight taking Shevardnadze from Vladivostok to Tokyo on 4 September; interview conducted in Russian, with simultaneous translation into Japanese provided by Mari Yonehara and Yuki Yoshioka; the following is from the Japanese translation from the "NHK News 21" Program—recorded]

[Text]

[Kobayashi] How do you feel about this visit to Japan?

[Shevardnadze] Well, to use a cliche, I would say that I feel I am going to do my job now. Well, a very important job is waiting for me now.

First of all, of late, the foreign ministerial consultations between us, between the Soviet Union and Japan, have not been developing very smoothly. Therefore, various problems have accumulated, and we will naturally discuss these problems. However, the major topic for the talks this time—that is, the major task for the foreign ministers of our two nations—is to start making full-scale preparations for President Gorbachev's visit to Japan.

In other words, we will make preparations for the Soviet-Japanese summit talks. That is to say, it is felt, not only in the world but also in the Soviet Union, that the Soviet-Japanese summit talks will turn out to be a significant event, a very unique event in the relations between the Soviet Union and Japan. I, personally, am convinced that the summit talks will become a major turning point in the relations betweem our two nations. And in our capacity as foreign ministers, we must make efforts to lay a good foundation for the talks. I feel that herein lies the major task or mission at the upcoming talks.

[Koboyashi] Nevertheless, the territorial issue has become the major obstacle, or most serious obstacle, to the development and improvement of relations between Japan and the Soviet Union. What contact points do you think can be worked out regarding this issue?

[Shevardnadze] Well, I think such an issue should be discussed directly at the consultations between the two nations. As you may know, such negotiations are in progress now within the framework of preparations for signing a peace treaty. The negotiations are in progress now, although at a slow pace, indeed. Well, in my opinion, it is precisely in this way that such an issue should be discussed. I think the so-called territorial issue should certainly be discussed within the framework of preparations for signing a peace treaty. That's what I think now.

Personally, I have never avoided discussing this issue, although it has not been settled yet. This is because the issue should be settled by taking into consideration the will of the peoples of our two nations. And as you may still remember, I have discussed this issue with former Japanese Foreign Minister Abe in Tokyo and also in Moscow, and I have also held discussions with other Japanese foreign ministers.

[Kobayashi] Do you mean that we can believe some concrete advances will be made prior to President Gorbachev's visit to Japan? In other words, do you mean that we can be optimistic about this issue?

[Shevardnadze] Well, after all, I do not think you should have asked this question. At the upcoming talks, we will discuss such issues as the timing for the president's visit to Japan. As to what issues should or should not be brought up for discussion at the summit talks, we, in our capacity as foreign ministers, will have to state our views to our respective top leaders.

As far as I am concerned, I will have to report to the president on the results of my current visit to Japan. The Soviet top leader's approach will be worked out on the basis of my report.

[Kobayashi] High-level talks are being held between the DPRK and the ROK today. During your stay in North Korea, Mr. Foreign Minister, what did you tell the nation's leaders?

[Shevardnadze] When we take into account past dialogues held between the North and South, it seems that no substantial progress at all has been made so far. I hope that the upcoming North-South summit talks will have comparatively favorable results, because I have told Korean leaders today and also yesterday that favorable conditions have been created for the two nations to find a point for concessions.

While attention should be paid to some points stated in North Korea's proposals, there are also certain reasonable factors in the proposals made by ROK leaders, including President No Tae-u. This is what I have told them. In this connection, I have said that conditions have been created for the two nations to at least begin dialogues and to promote the settlement of various issues.

[Kobayashi] Is that right? Well, then, do you think the time is now ripe for establishing diplomatic relations with the ROK?

[Shevardnadze] Well, I would like to answer this question in Tokyo. The relations between the Soviet Union and the ROK have been developing in a very positive way. Take the annual trade volume as an example. It has now been doubled. Moreover, businessmen and politicians of our two nations have now come to share greater interest in each other. Many Soviet enterprises want to expand trade, scientific and technological relations with the ROK. As for political and diplomatic relations between the two nations, they are generally settled at talks held between diplomats. Anyway, this issue will be settled soon.

Issues Arrival Statement

OW0409113990 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0930 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Statement by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze upon arrival at Tokyo's Haneda Airport; Shevardnadze speaks in Russian, with passage by passage translation into Japanese provided by an unidentified translator; the following is from the Japanese translation—live]

[Text] First of all, I would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Your Excellency, Foreign Minister Nakayama, and all those who have gathered here for coming to greet us. I would like also to express my gratitude upon our arrival in Tokyo, the beautiful capital of Japan, and for the fact that we have been given this chance to have consultations here at the foreign ministerial level.

Moreover, as I understand, I will have opportunities, during my stay here, to hold talks with his excellency, the prime minister and his majesty, the emperor, as well as with influential politicians and social figures in Japan.

I think I must point out that I heartily welcome the people from the press. If possible, I hope you will inform all the Japanese people of our very best feelings. I would like to request you to extend our best wishes on behalf of Soviet President Gorbachev and on behalf of our delegation.

On board the aircraft, I talked to my colleagues while recalling my first visit to Jpan in the autumn of 1986. I think it was a very nice visit, and during these past few years, since that trip, the Soviet Union and Japan have promoted favorable cooperation. We have cooperated with each other both as partners and as neighbors on many issues. However, in my opinion, these few years were a period in which our two nations have accumulated energies and experiences, and also favorable trends [keiko]. I am sure His Excellency, Foreign Minister Nakayama, will agree with my view.

At present, we should take joint actions in a more positive way, and I think our joint actions should aim at developing the bilateral relations and also at expanding our cooperation in various fields. This is true with our bilateral relations and with the realization of dialogue at the highest level, as well as with cooperation for achieving peace and security in the international community.

We have reached an accord on the agenda for our talks. Among the agenda items are issues concerning bilateral relations and cooperation as well as issues having to do with cooperation between our two nations in the international community. And among the items is a very significant issue, that is, to make due preparations for President Gorbachev's visit to Japan. I think there is no doubt his visit will become a very important event, a turning point, in the relations between our two nations.

I have said what I intended to say. As for the rest, I will speak after the talks.

Begins Talks With Nakayama

OW0509014490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0117 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 5 KYODO—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze began the first of three rounds of talks with his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama on Wednesday to exchange views on international hot spots and the territorial dispute between the Soviet Union and Japan.

The Soviet foreign minister, who last visited Japan in December 1988, has brought with him a high-level delegation of 10 officials seeking to establish the diplomatic framework for a successful visit by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev next year.

Shevardnadze said upon his arrival in Tokyo on Tuesday that the visit would be a "turning point" in bilateral relations.

International response to the Persian Gulf crisis is expected to dominate the morning session, with Nakayama outlining Tokyo's aid package for Middle East nations hit by the crisis and calling for joint action against Iraq, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Shevardnadze is expected to relay Moscow's thinking on the United Nations sanctioning of the use of limited force to halt ships violating the international ban on trade with Iraq. The Soviet Union has emphasized the need for an essentially Arab solution to the crisis.

Shevardnadze is expected to elaborate on an Asian-Pacific security initiative he announced Tuesday in Vladivostok, the officials said. In a speech in Vladivostok, Shevardnadze suggested a 1993 meeting of the region's foreign ministers in the eastern Soviet port city. Confidence-building measures could help bring an end to the cold war in Asia, he said.

Two rounds of talks are scheduled for Wednesday and the third for Thursday.

On Wednesday afternoon, the two foreign ministers will touch on Cambodian peace prospects bolstered by a recent U.N. Security Council agreement on the world body's role in a transition to elected government in the war-torn country.

The ministers also hope to turn their attention to bilateral issues including Japan's long-standing claim to a group of islands off its northern coast occupied by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II, Foreign

Ministry officials said. But little concrete progress is expected on this, with the stances on both sides essentially unchanged, the officials said.

Shevardnadze has hinted that Moscow might be willing to withdraw troops stationed on the islands but only in the context of a larger regional security scheme. Japan has rejected past Soviet proposals on talks in part due to the troop presence.

Japan has been adamant in withholding large-scale economic aid to Moscow pending progress on the territorial issue.

Shevardnadze's delegation, on a weeklong tour of China, North Korea and Japan, includes Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev.

To Meet LDP Leaders

OW0509044090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0252 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 5 KYODO—Visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will meet Shintaro Abe and Ichiro Ozawa, the former and present secretary generals of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], Wednesday afternoon, party sources said.

The meeting with Abe, the former foreign minister who visited Moscow in January, will be held at the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo. Then the second round of the Japan-Soviet foreign ministers' meeting begins in the afternoon.

In January, Abe made an eight-point proposal to help economic reforms promoted by President Mikhail Gorbachev and expand bilateral relations.

Shevardnadze will meet with Ozawa later in the afternoon at the LDP's Headquarters in Tokyo, the sources said.

Joint Communique 'Unprecedented'

OW0509095690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0939 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 5 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union, in an unprecedented joint communique on the Gulf crisis, on Wednesday called for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of that nation's sovereignty.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, expressed deep concern over foreign nationals detained in Iraq and strongly called on Baghdad to abide by a United Nations resolution calling for their early release.

The two foreign ministers also urged Iraq to remove impediments to diplomatic missions and refrain from any actions violating their diplomatic immunity. They said Iraq should respect the U.N. Charter and established international laws, and promptly implement measures in accordance with U.N. Security Council resolutions.

In issuing the joint communique on the first day of the regular bilateral foreign ministerial consultations, Nakayama and Shevardnadze said it was indispensable that all nations cooperate in an appropriate way to fully and immediately implement the U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Gulf crisis.

Nakayama and Shevardnadze expressed deep concern over the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which they called a grave infringement on the peace and security of the world.

Foreign Ministry officials said it was extremely unusual in light of traditional Japan-Soviet relations for the two nations to jointly appeal for the resolution of such a major global crisis.

Japan's relations with Moscow have been frayed, mainly by a long- running dispute over four islands off Hokkaido seized by Soviet forces at the end of World War II. Japan hopes this issue will be resolved when Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visits Tokyo next spring.

The joint communique reflected agreement that the whole international community must tackle regional military confrontations and the rise of nationalism likely in the wake of easing East-West tensions, the officials said.

The unprecedented display of Japan-Soviet unity on an international conflict paralleled an urgent U.S.-Soviet joint statement on the Gulf situation that was issued one day after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait by Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Nakayama and Shevardnadze issued the statement after two sessions of talks spanning six hours at the Foreign Ministry's Iikura Guest House.

In addition to the Persian Gulf, they discussed international issues involving Europe, the Korean peninsula and Cambodia, the officials said. Also tabled was a Soviet proposal for an Asia-Pacific security forum and matters related to the conclusion of a bilateral peace treaty, including the territorial question, they said.

In the third and final session, set for Thursday, Japan will address Soviet calls for expansion of bilateral cooperation ahead of Shevardnadze's departure from Tokyo on Friday.

Nakayama welcomed the fundamental changes sweeping the European continent and highly appraised the "new thinking" in Soviet foreign policy that has facilitated those changes. He added in irony, however, that the relaxation of cold war tensions has unleashed pent-up frustrations in some areas of the world which had previously been held in check by the confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Nakayama said, is one example.

Shevardnadze, meanwhile, said that if the current crisis had arisen during the period of Soviet-U.S. confrontation, it could conceivably have escalated into another world war, officials said. Instead, he said, the nations of the world have joined hands in rejecting the Iraqi move, while the U.N. Security Council passed a series of resolutions to counter it in a timely fashion.

Shevardnadze stressed the need for the Gulf conflict to be settled by peaceful means, calling for a continuation of dialogue among the Arab countries involved, the officials said.

Nakayama explained Japan's intention to provide logistical and material support for multinational forces in the Gulf region and financial aid to countries whose economies will likely suffer the most from the sanctions against Iraq.

He praised the quick Soviet response to the crisis and its cooperative stance in pushing through key resolutions in the U.N. Security Council.

While welcoming the Soviet Union's decision shortly after the invasion of Kuwait to ban the export of arms to Iraq, Nakayama reminded Shevardnadze that Soviet military assistance played a role in precipitating the situation.

Nakayama called on the Soviet Union, "as a country with the most considerable influence on Iraq," to pressure Baghdad to release foreign hostages in Iraq, the officials said.

Shevardnadze replied that, while he sympathizes with Japan, Moscow's influence over Iraq is limited. He pledged, however, to continue efforts in the U.N.

In their discussions on East-West relations, Shevardnadze was quoted as saying "there are no winners or losers in the aftermath of the cold war."

'Full Text' of Communique

OW0509122090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 5 KYODO—The following is the full text of the Japan-Soviet joint communique on the Gulf crisis issued by Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze translated by the Foreign Ministry:

Joint Statement by Japan and the U.S.S.R. on the Situation in the Gulf Region

Mr. Taro Nakayama, foreign minister of Japan, and Mr. Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, express their deep concern over the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which is a serious breach of world peace and security.

Both ministers share the recognition that the above-mentioned act and the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq are unlawful deeds contravening the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the established rules of international law, namely that all states should refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. The two ministers strongly call for the immediate withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the swift restoration of the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Kuwait.

Today, when ways are being explored to build a new international order toward the 21st century in the historical context of the affirmative changes taking place in East-West relations, the two ministers share the view that making collective efforts and fully utilizing the various functions of the U.N. for the solution of a regional conflict like this will prove that the international community will be able to secure peace and stability in the future.

From the above point of view, the two ministers, recognizing the importance of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council with regard to the situation in the Gulf region, consider that it is indispensable for all the states to cooperate in appropriate ways for the immediate and complete implementation of these resolutions.

The two ministers express their grave concern about the conditions of the foreigners detained in Iraq and Kuwait in contravention of the obligation which arises from international law and the norms of human rights, and strongly call for the related resolutions of the U.N. Security Council to be implemented so that Iraq makes it possible for these foreigners to leave freely for their home countries without any delay. They strongly request Iraq to remove the obstacles which prevent the diplomatic and consular missions in Kuwait from executing their functions, and to refrain from any act which violates their status and right to immunity.

The two ministers request Iraq to observe the United Nations Charter and the established rules of international law, and immediately take the measures set forth in the U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Tokyo, September 5, 1990

Spurns Territories Expectations

OW0509115290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1109 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 5 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union on Wednesday issued a joint statement calling for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of that nation's sovereignty.

The communique was issued after more than six hours of talks between Japanese Foreign Minister Taro

Nakayama and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze on the first day of two days of regular consultations in Tokyo.

Nakayama and Shevardnadze also agreed to establish a venue to discuss policy planning on security and other external affairs, Japanese officials who briefed reporters said. This venue, designed to promote mutual understanding, would be set up on the director general level of the foreign ministries of the two countries.

Shevardnadze proposed an eight-point program of bilateral confidence-building measures, including a dialogue on security, exchanges of military officials, and reciprocal port calls by naval vessels.

Shevardnadze spurned Japanese expectations that he might offer in Tokyo to pull back Soviet forces now stationed just off Japan's northern frontier on a group of contested islands seized at the end of World War II.

Officials said that Shevardnadze instead told Nakayama that the Soviet military presence on the disputed islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai group—can be taken up in the context of wider-ranging discussions on security matters.

Nakayama was quoted as responding that the two countries have many differences between them when it comes to security affairs in the Asia-Pacific region. He said circumstances in this region differ intrinsically from those in Europe and stressed the necessity of returning the disputed territories to Japan.

Government Sources on Brady Visit for Talks

OW0309025690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0207 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Paris, Sept. 3 KYODO—U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady will visit Japan on Friday as part of his tour of Western nations to bolster financial support for multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, Japanese Government sources said Monday.

Brady is expected to see Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Friday evening, according to the sources who are accompanying Hashimoto on his tour of four European nations.

The sources said Brady is not expected to press Japan to offer more financial support than the 1 billion dollars it has already pledged to assist peacekeeping efforts by multinational forces in the Gulf, as President George Bush has expressed his satisfaction with that amount. The United States has reportedly been dissatisfied with the amount Japan was providing and to be planning to request Tokyo to double the amount.

The sources said Brady and the Japanese ministers would also agree on financial help through the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for three neighboring countries of Iraq affected by the Gulf crisis, including Egypt.

Hashimoto, who begins a round of talks Monday with his counterparts in France, Italy, West Germany, and Britain on the effect of the crisis on world economic developments, will return home Friday afternoon, they added.

Ministry Chooses Ships for Gulf Mission

OW0409162790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1511 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 4 KYODO—The Transport Ministry on Tuesday asked a national crew union to provide two ships under a package of measures aimed at restoring peace in the Middle East.

The ministry proposed the All Japan Seamen's Union offer a Japan-owned, foreign-flag ship and a Japan-registered, foreign-chartered ship, which are now abroad and are scheduled to return to Japan on September 8 and 10, respectively. The names of the two vessels have not been disclosed.

The request was in line with Japan's pledge to offer civilian ships to transport nonmilitary goods as part of its effort to help resolving the Persian Gulf crisis. The designated ships are to be used to transport goods from the United States to Saudi Arabia.

The union will hold a meeting Wednesday to determine its response to the government request.

Government To Order Oil Firms To Tap Reserves

OW0409173190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 4 KYODO—The government decided Tuesday to call on domestic oil suppliers to change their accounting system to limit expected oil product price rises by tapping into the oil reserves in the private sector, government officials said.

Oil suppliers will be required to adopt the "total-average" system for accounting instead of the current last-in first-out (LIFO) method in order to smooth out fluctuations in the costs for importing crude oil, the officials said.

Hideyuki Aizawa, director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), proposed the change at a cabinet meeting.

Private oil reserves had been piled up when crude oil prices were low, and can last 88 days.

Under the proposed accounting system, oil companies are expected to average out the costs of purchasing oil in the period of low oil prices before the Gulf crisis broke out, and the high prices after that. Then the companies can prevent rises in crude oil prices after the August shipments from being directly reflected in the prices of oil products.

The majority of the major oil suppliers in Japan have adopted the LIFO stock-keeping, whereby the latest items bought are sold before old stock is cleared. The oil companies had switched to the system to make it easier to shift the fluctuations of crude oil prices into the prices of their products.

The corporate tax law prohibits a company from changing its accounting system within three years after a change. Pointing out the legal restrictions on changing the accounting method, oil companies expressed skepticism about the idea.

An official of a major oil supplier explained, "the stock-keeping system for accounting cannot be changed for a certain period of time once a company chooses from three methods; the moving average method, first-in first-out method, or LIFO method. If we want to switch the system to another we have got to get permission from the superintendent of the taxation office," he said.

Another official of an oil supplier said, "we have adopted the LIFO method because we have found, from many years of experience, that it is the best way for making the changes in costs faithfully reflected in the prices. We cannot agree with open arms to the government proposal of changing the system."

In the cabinet meeting, International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto tried to sell the case of oil companies to the other cabinet members, but failed. When Muto said some price hike by oil companies due to rising crude oil prices should be considered, several ministers took exception.

Moriyoshi Sato, director general of the National Land Agency, said, "we have 142 days of oil reserves in the hands of the government and the private sector, all of which had been bought when oil prices were much lower. We cannot obtain the understanding of the people unless we put them into use to contain inflation."

Home Affairs Minister Keiwa Okuda also called Muto's remarks into question, asking why rises should be permitted when there are large oil reserves. Muto was also criticized when he explained that oil suppliers are using the LIFO method.

The director general of the Management and Coordination Agency, Jun Shiozaki, said, "the currently used system is not suitable under the current circumstances."

Muto said at a press conference after the cabinet meeting that he had told the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy to start considering change of the accounting system.

Meanwhile, the EPA announced that it will conduct a survey on oil product prices to monitor the effect of rising crude oil prices.

The survey will be conducted this weekend and will mobilize 4,200 price monitors nationwide. It will focus on gasoline, kerosene, and liquefied petroleum gas, EPA officials said.

The results of the first survey will be announced by the end of September. The EPA plans to continue the survey, conducting it every two weeks, they said.

Sakamoto Expresses Hopes for Inter-Korean Talks

OW0409121390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 4 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto on Tuesday expressed the hope that the prime ministerial talks between North and South Korea will help ease tensions on the divided Korean peninsula.

"Both sides have made a lot of efforts to bring the meeting about and I hope it will bear fruit," Sakamoto said at a news conference.

North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk arrived in Seoul Tuesday for two sessions of talks with his South Korean counterpart Kang Yong-hun on Wednesday and Thursday. The talks, the highest-level contact between North and South Korea since the two countries were divided in 1945, are expected to focus on ways of easing military and political confrontation on the peninsula.

Miyazawa Leaves for Three-Nation European Tour

OW0209075690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0659 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 2 (KYODO)—Former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa left Tokyo Sunday for Frankfrut on a trip to West Germany, Belgium, and Hungary to exchange views with European leaders.

Miyazawa will meet West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Gensher, European Community (EC) Commission Chairman Jacques Delors and Hungarian President Arpad Goenz.

Talks between Miyazawa and European leaders are expected on such issues as the Gulf crisis, German unification and the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks. Miyazawa will return home on September 9.

LDP's Watanabe Home From Southeast Asia Tour

OW0209052990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0513 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 2 KYODO—Senior ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] politician Michio Watanabe returned home from Bangkok on Sunday completing his 17-day tour of Southeast Asia.

Watanabe, who heads his faction in the LDP, visited Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia and Myanmar [Burma] where he conferred with their leaders.

Poll Shows New High in Public Support of Kaifu

OW0109020090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0153 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 1 KYODO—The cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu attained an all-time-high public support rating of 62.5 percent at the end of last month, up 2.5 percentage points from the previous survey, a YOMIURI SHIMBUN poll showed Saturday.

This was the highest support rating among cabinets in the postwar period, surpassing the 60.5 percent rate enjoyed by the cabinet of Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka in October 1972, the mass circulation daily said. Those who did not support the Kaifu cabinet accounted for 21.8 percent, down 1 point from last year. The nonsupport rating was the lowest since Kaifu formed his cabinet in August last year.

The YOMIURI conducted the survey on August 25 and 26, covering 3,000 adults, of whom 2,161 or 72 percent responded.

Of those who said they supported the Kaifu cabinet, 37.4 percent said they did so because it belongs to the Liberal Democratic Party. The poll showed that 34.5 percent, down from 43.9 percent, supported the cabinet because of Kaifu's diplomatic efforts.

Those polled praised the prime minister for his response to the Gulf crisis though the approval rating for his diplomacy dropped from July, the paper said.

Justice Minister Hasegawa Hospitalized

OW0309053790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0457 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO—Justice Minister Shin Hasegawa was hospitalized on Monday after collapsing at the Imperial Palace, officials said. Doctors said the right side of his body was apparently paralyzed, possibly as a result of a stroke.

Hasegawa, 71, was attending a ceremony at the palace to report to Emperor Akihito on the recent appointment of a new Supreme Court justice, Ryohei Kizaki. A short time after making the report around 10:30 A.M. he was unable to remain standing, and could not attend a further ceremony in which the emperor certifies the justice's appointment, court officials said.

Hasegawa received emergency treatment from court doctors and was then taken to Toranomon Hospital in Minato Ward by ambulance.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto hurried to the palace and replaced Hasegawa in the rite, which started over 90 minutes late.

The secretariat of the justice minister's office said Hasegawa gave no sign of any health problem on Monday morning. Hasegawa has been elected three times to the House of Councillors from Niigata Prefecture.

Mongolia

P. Ochirbat Sworn In as President 4 Sep

OW0409150190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] On Tuesday, 4 September, Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat was sworn in as president of Mongolia. The ceremony took place in the session hall of the People's Great Hural in the presence of the deputies to the People's Great Hural. In his address to the deputies and the people of Mongolia, President Ochirbat called for national unity in joint efforts [words indistinct] Mongolia's prosperity and the nation's welfare.

Urges Switch to Market Economy

OW0409064690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0616 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, Sept. 4 KYODO—Mongolia's first elected president, Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, urged the nation in his inauguration speech Tuesday to construct a market-oriented economy, while at the same time stressing the need to maintain good relations with China and the Soviet Union.

The Presidium of the People's Great Hural elected Ochirbat president on Monday by an overwhelming majority of 372 to 44, following the nation's first ever free elections in July.

In a nationally televised speech, Ochirbat described the difficult task facing the landlocked nation, which has been ruled by the Communist Party for the past 69 years. "Mongolia has historically been in a complicated situation," he said.

While he stressed the need to move away from excessive involvement with the neighboring Soviet Union and pursue a nonaligned foreign policy focusing on stronger ties with the Asia-Pacific nations, Ochirbat noted that relations with the Soviets and China are particularly significant to Mongolia. Mongolia has an accumulated debt to the Soviet Union amounting to 10 billion rubles.

Ochirbat, 48, a former foreign trade minister, called for the introduction of a market economy domestically, and pledged to work on attaining membership of international monetary and trade institutions. He expressed hopes of joining the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Ochirbat must strive for the smooth implementation of a market economy, launching specific measures to improve the living standards of Mongolians, and cooperation with the opposition forces, political observers said.

People's Great Hural Elects Chairman, Others

OW0409154990 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] The debate continued at the first session of the People's Great Hural which has adopted a 12-point agenda including the election of vice president, composition of the state's small hural, discussion of the report by Prime Minister Gungaadorj and the state of his cabinet, and setting up of a council of constitutional control. Yesterday, deputies elected Gombojab, Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party member, as chairman of the People's Great Hural. Members of the Social Democratic Party and the Party of National Progress and a nonparty (?milk maid) in the position of Kazakh nationality were elected deputy chairpersons of the assembly, while a popular representative of the Mongolian Democratic Union, Elbegdorj, failed to get the required majority. Dashdemberel, secretary of the former hural presidium, assumes the general secretariat.

MONTSAME Observer Comments on Elections

OW3008124790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The past elections to People's Hurals of all levels were, for the first time in the country's history, held in conditions of multiparty system and thus became a good lesson of democracy, notes a MONTSAME agency observer in the newspaper ARDYN ERH [PEOPLE'S RIGHT]. The present elections passed in the atmosphere of acute competition, and one party failed to reach their goals while others witnessed the result of their passiveness, notes the observer. The newly elected deputies were concerned with difficult tasks of getting the country's economy out of the critical situation, electing the first president of the country, et cetera. So they must have been working hard to justify the trust of the electorates, notes the observer.

North Korea

North-South High-Level Talks Commence in Seoul

Yon Speaks at Dinner Party

SK0409154190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul September 4 (KCNA correspondent)—Kang Yong-hun, "prime minister" of the South side, gave a dinner this evening in honour of the delegation of the North side which arrived in Seoul for the first North-South High-Level Talks.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk of our side spoke at the dinner.

Heavy is the responsibility devolved upon the first North-South High-Level Talks for the nation, and very great is the nation's expectation of this talks, he said, and went on:

When we hold talks we must hold them both nominally and virtually to pave the way for reunification, and, when we travel between Pyongyang and Seoul we must do it actually to make one country, and, when we sit at the dinner table we must record a new chapter in history by demonstraing at home and abroad that ours is a homogeneous nation through reconciliation and unity with each other.

To hold a dialogue which would no more disappoint our fellow countrymen, a dialogue which would help really alleviate their sufferings from national partition, a dialogue which would help lay cornerstones and erect pillars on them for reunification—this is the stand and will of our delegation in approaching the Seoul talks.

Neither side, we think, must try to overwhelm or defeat the other on the sacred road of reunification for the country and the nation but each side must display the spirit of national unity and good virtues of reciprocating one concession with two and of carrying two or three things into practice when an agreement is reached on one point.

Emphasizing that the cause of national reunification cannot be accomplished by forcing one's idea, ideology and system upon the other, Premier Yon Hyong-muk said:

We maintain that the question of national reunification must be solved by means of founding a confederal state while leaving the different ideas and systems in the North and the South as they are, not in such a manner as one side conquering the other or being conquered.

We consider that reunification through confederation is the most reasonable and realistic way for the North and the South to achieve the country's reunification by peaceful means, not fighting each other.

We have come to Seoul this time with a view to creating a precondition for reunification to ensure that there is no threat either from the North or from the South to our nation.

Availing ourselves of our visit to Seoul, we hope to meet and exchange greetings with officials of political parties and organizations and people of broad strata of the South side.

Chief delegate of the South side Kang Yong-hun spoke at the dinner.

He welcomed the North side's delegation and said that if confidence is built through repeated meetings between the two sides, it would probably produce an opportunity for a thaw of the barrier of distrust.

In the evening, some members of the North side's delegation saw a South Korean documentary film.

Radio Reports Opening of Talks

SK0509024290 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0200 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Amid great expectations and attention from all fellow countrymen, the first day of meetings of the first North-South High-Level Talks is going on in Seoul this morning.

The South side decided that the Inter-Continental Hotel, where our delegation is staying, would be the site of the talks.

Numerous reporters from the North and the South and foreign reporters have come to the site of the talks to cover the talks.

As is already known, the full-dress talks of the North-South High-Level Talks, which are being held one and a half years after the first preliminary talks on 8 February last year, are historic talks in which high-level officials led by the premiers of the North and South will sit face to face for the first time since the division and discuss the nation's important matters. Our side has made all sincere efforts to arrange the North-South High-Level Talks and has made every preparation to ensure that the current talks will, nominally and practically, become fruitful dialogue for bringing an end to confrontation and for practically opening a turning phase for peace in the country and for peaceful reunification in compliance with the nation's earnest desire for reunification.

Our side's delegation will advance epochal and comprehensive proposals to bring about successes in the current talks.

At 1000 this morning, Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, head of the North side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks; delegate Kim Kwang-chin, general of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; delegate An Pyong-su, director of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, a spokesman for our side; delegate Paek Nam-chun, chief of the Councillors' Office of the Administration Council; delegate Kim Chong-u, vice-minister of external economic affairs; delegate Choe U-chin, roving ambassador of the Foreign Ministry; delegate Kim Yong-chol, major general of the KPA; and suite members entered the room for the talks.

Also, the South side's delegates, led by senior delegate Kang Yong-hun, and suite members entered the room for the talks.

Our delegates exchanged greetings with the South side's delegates.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk, the head of our delegation, delivered a greeting. The talks continue.

KCNA Report on Opening

SK0509044390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407 GMT 5 Sep 90

[By KCNA correspondent]

[Text] Seoul September 5—The first-day sitting of the 1st North-South High-Level Talks is going on in Seoul on September 5.

It is a historical meeting in which high-ranking persons headed by premiers of the North and the South sit face to face to discuss the important matters for the nation for the first time in the history of division.

At 10 A.M. [0100 GMT], head of the North side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks Premier Yon Hyong-muk and delegates Kim Kwang-chin, general of the Korean People's Army, An Pyong-su, director of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, Paek Nam-chun, chief of the Councillors' Office of the Administration Council, Kim Chong-u, vice-minister of external economic affairs, Choe U-chin, roving ambassador of the Foreign Ministry, Kim Yong-chol, major general of the Korean People's Army, and suite members appeared at the place of the talks.

Chief delegate Kang Yong-hun, "prime minister", and delegates and suites of the South side also came out to the place.

In his speech of greetings, Yon Hyong-muk conveyed warm compatriotic regards of the fellow countrymen in the North to Seoul citizens and compatriots in the South who cordially greeted and welcomed the delegation and its suite members.

Yesterday, we received compatriotic welcome of the fellow countrymen in the South en route to Seoul across Panmunjom and on streets in Seoul, when we keenly felt that although there lies a barrier bisecting the territory, there is no barrier in the minds of the fellow countrymen, Yon Hyong-muk said, adding:

This more firmly convinced us that the North and the South are the one and the same nation which cannot live separated and our country can certainly be reunified into one.

The 1990s is a hopeful decade for the reunification of the country, he said, and continued:

The delegates of the two sides must justify the expectation of the nation by confirming the timetable of reunification in the 90s and successfully holding the talks which was arranged with much difficulty in keeping with the uncheckable desire and aspirations of the entire fellow countrymen to accelerate the reunification.

Our North side's delegation will devote all sincerity to the successful progress of the talks and make every possible effort to accomplish the cause of national reunification, the supreme cherished desire of the nation.

Yon Delivers Keynote Speech

SK0509045190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT 5 Sep 90

[By KCNA correspondent]

[Text] Seoul September 5—Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, who is heading the North side's delegation at the first North-South High-Level Talks which opened here made a keynote speech.

Setting out the North side's basic stand toward the talks, he said: While working toward reunification, we must both regard reunification, on all accounts, as one based on our mutual interests and unity, not as a matter of one side conquering the other or being conquered. There must be no difference on this point.

He proposed to define the following three points as the principles to be observed in the whole course of the talks:

Firstly, the sides shall reaffirm and strictly abide by the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—which were laid down in the July 4, 1972 North-South joint statement.

Secondly, the sides shall place the common interests of the nation above the interests of one side in the discussion of matters.

Thirdly, the two sides shall refrain from any act spoiling the atmosphere of the talks or hindering the progress of the talks.

Then, Premier Yon Hyong-muk elaborated on the basic problems to be discussed and resolved within the framework of "On Removing the Political and Military Confrontation and Realizing Multi-Faceted Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and the South," the agenda of the talks.

We attach essential significance to the question of removing the political and military confrontation, he said, adding: Wide-range exchange in the economy, culture and other social realms is significant in promoting mutual understanding and national unity. But such exchange will pay off only when the political and military confrontation, the root cause of distrust between the two sides, is removed.

He put forward the following proposals to remove the political confrontation:
1. To cease from slandering each other and organizing political functions to incite confrontation.
2. To remove all the legal and institutional mechanisms that are contrary to national unity and reunification.
3. To guarantee the freedom of the press in introducing each other and the freedom of thought in following each other's ideas.
4. To remove the physical barriers dividing the North and the South.
5. To realize free travel and contact between political parties, organisations and people of all strata.
6. The North and the South jointly proceed to the international political arena and cooperate with each other there.

When an agreement is reached between the sides on the above-said matters, it will be possible to discuss more concrete, extended proposals and, if other problems are raised beside them, they will be discussed, too, the head of our side's delegation said.

Referring to the problems to be resolved urgently in removing the political confrontation, he said one of them is related to U.N. membership and the other is the problem of those who had visited the North including the Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan, woman student Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Kyu-hyon.

Drawing attention to the conflicting views of the North and the South concerning U.N. membership, he said to overcome this difference in an urgent task of us who should jointly proceed and cooperate with each other in the international arena.

He said that the imprisonment of those who had visited the North out of a desire for national reunification casts a dark shadow over the North-South relations. He hoped the issue of their release will be solved through the talks.

Then, Premier Yon Hyong-muk elaborated on the proposal to ease the military confrontation.

The proposal contains "confidence-building between the North and the South", "North-South arms reduction," "foreign troop pullout" and "disarmament and ensuing guarantee of peace."

It lays stress on the following points:
- The North and the South shall restrict military exercises.
A) To prohibit all joint military exercises with foreign forces.
B) To prohibit military exercises of divisional scale and above.
C) Not to allow military exercises of foreign troops in either side's area.
- The North and the South shall reduce armed forces stage by stage.
A) Troop reduction shall be made in three stages within 3 or 4 years after a disarmament proposal is agreed upon between both sides.
In the first stage each sides shall reduce its troops by 300,000 men respectively in the second stage 200,000 men and in the third stage leave less than 100,000 men respectively.
B) Military equipment shall be reduced and eliminated in keeping with a phrased arms cutback.
- The North and the South shall turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.
A) Joint efforts shall be made to have all the nuclear weapons out of South Korea immediately.
B) Nuclear weapons shall neither be produced nor be purchased.

C) The entry into and passage through the Korean territory of foreign planes and warships carrying nuclear weapons shall be banned. - The North and the South shall make joint efforts to get all the foreign troops out of the Korean peninsula.
A) The U.S. troops and their equipment shall be withdrawn completely stage by stage, proportionate to the arms reduction of the two parts of Korea.
B) Proportionate to the withdrawal of the U.S. troops, their military bases in South Korea shall be dismantled stage by stage.

Stressing that for detente and a durable peace in Korea a nonaggression declaration should be signed between the North and the South together with the aforesaid military steps, Premier Yon Hyong-muk outlined its gist.

What is most urgent in removing military confrontation and defusing tension, Yon Hyong-muk said, is to discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

The massive "Team Spirit" military exercises which are staged for a few months every year with the North as an imaginary enemy carry the situation of our country to the extreme pitch of strain and have a seriously effect on the North-South dialogue, too, he said.

He requested that the South side completely stop the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises or tentatively suspend them for two or three years at least.

If the political and military confrontation is removed, he said, the North and the South will be able to realise wide-range cooperation and exchange in all social spheres including the economy and culture on the basis of mutual confidence.

Noting that the issues to be discussed within the framework of the agenda of the talks are very enormous and complicated, Yon Hyong-muk put forward the points that should be agreed upon at the first talks.

At the first talks, he stressed, both sides should agree upon the three principles they should abide by in the whole course of talks and, at the same time, agree upon the three urgent matters arising in dispelling the political and military confrontation—to share the same seat in the United Nations, to discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and to release those who visited the North including Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, woman student Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Kyu-hyon.

Reporters' Pessimism Assailed

SK0509045890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0254 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Regarding the first North-South High-Level Talks, ugly episodes took place on the eve of the talks. On 4 September, before the talks began, the South side's reporters jumped to a conclusion on the prospects of the talks, saying that the current talks would end without any progress and that the two conflicting stands will be further widened when the talks start.

All the fellow countrymen are watching the high-level talks, which are being held for the first time in the history of North-South dialogue, and earnestly hope that the talks are held successfully and that, with this as a stepping stone, a road will open toward the reunification of the fatherland. On hearing, at this time, the South side's reporters make such improper remarks even before the talks begin, we cannot help but be shocked. Such predictions by the South side's reporters are carried in South Korean newspapers and radio and television. Such words and deeds by them lead us to doubt whether the South Korean authorities may be seeking different purposes in the current talks and that they are deliberately doing this. We cannot interpret the undesirable words and deeds by the South side's reporters to be otherwise than a deliberate act designed to create a big obstacle to the talks.

Chondaehyop Welcomes North

SK0509045790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—The National Council of [University] Student Representatives of South Korea (Chondaehyop) on September 3 issued a statement in connection with the North-South High-Level Talks and warmly welcomed the North side delegation's visit to Seoul, according to radio reports.

The statement expressed the hope that discussion would focus on political and military issues and substantial results would be produced at the talks and called for the reduction of the military strength of the North and the South to the level of 100,000 men each and for the admission to the United Nations as one member.

Song Kap-sok, chairman of Chondaehyop, told a press conference on the same day at Yonsei University that if the South Korean "Government" which obstructed the pan-national rally tries to abuse the North-South High-Level Talks for the purpose of "government security," one million students would resolutely fight against it.

South 'Throwing Wet Blanket'

SK0509054190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0527 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—On September 4, the very day the North side's delegation arrived in Seoul for North-South High-Level Talks South Korea's leading newspapers including TONG-A ILBO and CHOSON ILBO not only carried provocative articles slandering the North's social system but also published false reports speaking ill of North side's delegation members who had traveled to South Korea earlier.

NODONG SINMUN today carries a commentary of its press group from Seoul under the headline "Deliberate Act of Throwing Wet Blanket Over the High-Level Talks."

Judging from the fact that South Korean newspapers in unison came out with provocative and slanderous articles on the very day of receiving our delegation, there is no doubt that crooked hands of black-hearted men who do not want the reunification of the country are moving behind them, the commentary says, and goes on:

It is a rude, uncourteous act and an open challenge to us that the South side launched a smear campaign after receiving our delegation as guests.

This also reveals that they have no intention to work toward finding a solution to the urgent pending problems including the question of holding the North-South High-Level Talks smoothly and thus removing the political and military confrontation and making a breakthrough for reunification.

Such attempts of the South side were manifested in the fact that it tried by hook or by crook to bar our reporters from covering scenes.

They mobilized secret agents to blockade the hotel where our delegation put up when it arrived in Seoul, and fell upon reporters by fours or fives and dragged them away when they tried to videorecord the scene of our premier's arrival in Seoul, thus preventing news coverage.

The South side has let loose hundreds of agents wearing the arm bands of "press" and makes them cause disturbances to keep our reporters from freely covering scenes.

It is foolish of them to attempt to irritate us and incite North-South confrontation and thereby create obstacles to the cause of national reunification.

Reverend's Release Demanded

SK0509052990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a commentary titled "Envoys of Reunification Must Be Released" in connection with the first North-South High-Level Talks opening in Seoul today.

With the North-South High-Level Talks expected to be held alternately in Pyongyang and Seoul, we feel sad at the fact that Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan and his companion and coed Yim Su-kyong and her companion who returned to South Korea after visiting Pyongyang last year as messengers of reunification are now suffering behind bars, the news analyst says, and continues:

They came to the northern half of the country where fellow countrymen are living and shouted "Korea is one" and "Let's achieve reunification". How can this be the reason that they should be put on trial and penalized and persecuted?

As the compatriots in the North, South and overseas are lifting up their voices demanding that the envoys of reunification be released and it be allowed to visit and console the envoys of reunification, the South Korean authorities transferred them to the Chonju and Chongju prisons far away from Seoul and have imposed greater mental and physical sufferings upon them. Worse still, they cut the hair of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan in his seventies through a "haircutting ceremony". This is, indeed, an unpardonable challenge to the entire fellow countrymen's desire for the release of the envoys of reunification and an act against national reconciliation and unity.

The South Korean authorities must pull down the disgraceful concrete wall and scrap the "National Security Law", an anti-reunification law, that stand in the way of North-South contact and dialogue. At the same time, they must set free without delay Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, woman student Yim Su-kyong, Father Mun Kyu-hyon and all other visitors of the North and patriotic people.

They must show in deed their willingness for national unity and reunification by solving these problems by their own decision, the news analyst stresses.

'Rude Acts' Against Reporters

SK0509060290 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0513 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] This is a report filed by the reporters' team of this broadcasting committee, which went to Seoul to cover the first round of the North-South High-Level Talks.

Because of the rude acts of the South side's guides, the activities of our side's reporters were greatly hampered while covering the first round of the North-South High-Level Talks.

The South side's people wearing guide's insignia blocked every step of our side's reporters by occupying the place from the door of the waiting room to the corridor of the conference room.

They unhesitatingly committed a violent act by hindering our reporters from going to the third floor to pick up tapes. What should not be overlooked is that similar acts were staged outside the conference room.

When our reporters went outside of the hotel to cover scenes, the South side's guides blocked tightly and violently our reporters, lest citizens of Seoul contact them.

In particular, when seven members of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] were trying to convey to our reporters Chondaehyop's open letter, addressed to the premiers of the North and the South, the South side's guides forcibly blocked and beat them, making them bloody, and dragged them into the basement of the hotel.

Such acts by the South side indeed go beyond one's imagination, and show how meanly the South side is maneuvering to pour cold water over the atmosphere of dialogue and to block the contact between our side's members and the South Korean people.

U.S. Papers' Reports of Weapons to Iraq 'False'

SK0309100090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok: "Why Do They Spread Groundless Rumors?"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets recently are running amok with slanderous propaganda against us in connection with the situation prevailing in the Gulf area.

On 30 August, a U.S. paper, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, carried a false report of a so-called attempt to break through the blockade by airlift and so forth, which read as if we were attempting to transport weapons and material to Iraq.

Prior to this, on 27 August, U.S. papers spread the groundless rumors that we offered military equipment to Iraq. This is not an incorrect report stemming from a momentary mistake on the part of newspaper companies. This precisely represents the U.S. imperialists' erroneous, hostile position toward our Republic. Hidden in this is a dirty political plot to spoil our Republic's authority by misleading world public opinion.

As is known to all, today a dangerous situation in which a war may break out at any moment is being created in the Gulf area. This situation was caused by the reckless maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and outside forces who, having assembled armed forces on a large scale in this area in an attempt to fish in troubled waters by interfering in an Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute, are maneuvering for military intervention.

In connection with the Gulf situation, we consistently have maintained the position the territorial stability and sovereignty of a nation of the world should not be infringed upon by any other nation, and that questions in a dispute should be resolved peacefully, not through use of armed forces.

Proceeding from this principled position, we hold that the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute should be resolved peacefully, and that occupation of the Gulf area and military interference by foreign armed forces should end.

The U.S. imperialists and government-patronized trumpeters, nevertheless, fabricated and spread a falsehood. This is a premeditated provocation against our Republic and an intolerable deceitful act ridiculing world public opinion.

It is a stereotypic trick and a chronic, vicious habit of the U.S. imperialists to slander and smear the other innocent people after having committed a crime, like a thief shouting "Stop thief!"

It is a fact widely known to the entire world that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets committed terrorist acts everywhere in the world. But ridiculously enough, they put us on the so-called terrorist list and slandered and defamed us while talking about sanctions and so forth.

The rascals this time, too, tried to spoil the authority of our Republic, which consistently maintained a fair, just, and principled position, on the pretext of offering military equipment, which is untrue, according to their stereotypic trick.

What should not be overlooked is that the U.S. imperialists said some countries, including us and Cuba, are attempting to break through the blockade line by a so-called airlift and raved that therefore they are reviewing aerial blockading in addition to maritime blockading.

This shows the wicked intention of the U.S. imperialists to advance along the path of war—the path of undisguised military intervention—by further aggravating the Gulf crisis and provoking the nations with whom they are displeased, including us.

The South Korean puppets are keeping chime with the U.S. imperialists in their preposterous propaganda.

According to a report, a high-level South Korean Government official raved that we are trying to improve relations with Iraq through the sale of weapons. The U.S. imperialists are playing trumpet and the puppets are keeping chime with them. Thus, the No Tae-u group exposed to the entire world its true nature as dirty pro-U.S. stooges and nation-selling flunkeyists who flatter, toady, and actively follow the U.S. imperialist masters.

The slanderous and smear maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets cannot convince anyone in the open, fair world. The rascals must discard the vicious habit of slandering other people whenever they find an opportunity and must correct their hostile policy against our Republic.

Today a broad range of peace-loving people in the world want to see the crisis in the Gulf area resolved peacefully, not by military strength. The U.S. imperialists must withdraw their aggressive forces from the Gulf area at an early date in compliance with the demand of the world's people and stop reckless military interference maneuvers.

Further on DPRK-U.S. Seminar on Reunification

Korea-U.S. Ties Discussed

SK0309114990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1111 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 3 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuclear Peace Committee who is also Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, delivered a congratulatory speech at the seminar of Korea-U.S. anti-war, anti-nuclear organizations and community activists on peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula which opened here today.

He said: at a time when it has become a trend that the world is heading towards detente and peace, barriers of division are collapsing and countries and nations are being reunified, only the Korean people are forced to live separated in the North and the South without knowing the fate of their families, relatives and friends. This can never be tolerated either in view of the elementary human ethics or of the unified development of the nation.

He further said:

The reasonable way of solving the Korean reunification question on the basis of the three principles— independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity— is to form a confederal state with the ideologies and systems in the North and the South left intact.

The great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song put forward a proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in October 1980 as a concrete way of reunifying the country through confederation. We consider that reunifying the country through confederation on the basis of the co-existence of the two systems and two self-governments is the most reasonable and realistic way of reunification that conforms to the specific conditions of our country.

In order to terminate the division of the country and solve the national reunification question in a peaceful way, we have no other way but confederation.

If Korea is to be reunified peacefully, it is imperative to pull down the barrier of division and realise free travel and complete opening between the North and the South.

The South Korean authorities, too, said they welcome free travel and complete opening. So, they must not confine themselves to talking about it but take practical steps to tear down the concrete wall obstructive to it and remove all the political mechanisms standing in the way of inter-Korean contact and meeting.

He went on to say: Those countries which are concerned about the Korean question must also be conscious of their responsibility for the continuing tragedy of division in Korea and maintain the stand of principle conducive to Korea's reunification.

The Korean people will never tolerate any act of a country concerned leading to "two Koreas".

To develop North-South dialogue is the only way of peacefully solving the national reunification question by incorporating the will of the whole nation, Kim Yong-sun said, and added: The confederal state of Korea, neutral and non- aligned, will conform to the national interests of the entire Korean people and do no harm to the interests of any neighbouring countries.

After our country is reunified into a confederal state, it will respect the interests of all countries in South Korea.

Our confederal state will develop friendly and cooperative relations with all countries friendly to it on the principle of equality, respect and mutual benefits.

The United States, of course, is not ruled out in this.

The U.S. authorities must not avert their eyes from the unbreakable, strong will and demand of our people for national reunification but look straight at the situation and do something favourable to Korean reunification, instead of persistently trying to create "two Koreas". Then, there will be no ground for our being on bad terms with the United States.

If the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo is realised and a reunified neutral confederal state built in Korea, it would develop favourably its relations with the United States, too.

UN Delegate Delivers Report

SK0309220790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 3 (KCNA)—Wilhelm Joseph, U.N. delegate of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, delivered the keynote report on the third agenda item "On Strengthening International Solidarity With the National Self-Determination and Peaceful Reunification of the Korean People" at the seminar of the Korea-U.S. anti-war, anti- nuclear organisations and community activists on peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula which opened here today.

We want to contribute through this seminar to strengthening the international solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the national self-determination and reunification of their country in the United States, making the U.S. change its foreign policy and solving the critical phase existing on the Korean peninsula in a peaceful way, the reporter said.

Referring to the issue of relations between nations, the reporter said the Americans have a particular responsibility to work for harmonious relations among nations to prevent the sufferings caused to others and oppose the U.S. policy of war.

Touching on the benefits of effective international solidarity with Korea, the reporter stated:

One of this solidarity will be to change U.S. foreign policy in a way that will permit required development in the Korean peninsula.

This solidarity and the change of U.S. foreign policy and practice will lead to the successful implementation of the five-point policy for national reunification put forth by the DPRK.

Another purpose of this solidarity is to contribute to the withdrawal of the U.S. Armed Forces and missiles from the Korean peninsula, the beginning of meaningful dialogue among all the people of all of Korea, the removal of all barriers which prevent free travel to all parts of the country, the signing of a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States and the entry into the U.N. of one united Korea.

Delegates Address Seminar

SK0409104790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 4 (KCNA)—Many delegates took the floor at the seminar of Korea-U.S. anti-war, anti-nuclear organizations and community activists on peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula.

John Catalinotto, member of the National Committee of the Workers World Party of the USA, said that with regard to Korea, his party's task is two fold. One is to educate people in the U.S. about the accomplishments of the DPRK, this great progress that they see on their trip here and about the desire of the Korean people for a unified country.

Another is to mobilize against the U.S. occupation of South Korea and the danger this occupation means for young people in the U.S.

Saying when socialism is under attack worldwide by imperialism, the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] proudly raises the banner of socialism and communism, he stressed that the Workers' Party of Korea and President Kim Il-song and Secretary Kim Chong-il, the leadership of the WPK, decisively smashed the isolation policy of U.S. imperialism.

The Workers World supports the demands that the U.S. troops and weapons get out of Korea, that the concrete wall be torn down, and that the Korean people be allowed peaceful reunification without interference from imperialism, he emphasized.

Karen Gellen, foreign editor of the newspaper "GUARDIAN", said: We in the U.S., a country that has visited horrific destruction upon Korea and that keeps it divided, have a special responsibility to the Korean people. For Washington the cold war remains alive in its continuing aggressive stance toward the DPRK and its bolstering of the fascist "regime" in the South. We must seize upon the U.S. people's raised hopes for a peaceful world and make them aware that an ugly repressive wall stands across the Korean peninsula.

Cho Il-min, head of the delegation of the National Democratic Front of South Korea (Hanminjon), said that the reunification movement in South Korea has traversed a path of arduous and hard-fought struggles against the separatists who are desperately opposed to reunification, exposed and charged that the military "government" steered by the U.S. is freezing the righteous reunification movement with forces, shackling, arresting and imprisoning numerous patriots who are in the van of the reunification movement.

Though they are vocalizing about reunification, the real wish of the No Tae-u group is not reunification but the fixation of division and their aim is not one Korea but "two Koreas", he said.

He said that for realising free travel and complete opening between the North and the South, the concrete wall must be removed and the "National Security Law" be abolished.

The Hanminjon will surely tear down the division wall and open wide the door of reunification through vigorous struggle in the 1990s, he declared.

Lydia Bayoneta, national organizer of the people's anti-war mobilization, said in his speech that because they live in the United States they must raise the voice of justice to support the peace and reunification of Korea in various organizations, labour unions, churches and community organizations, at workplaces, and the public forums.

Nothing can be more logical or just than the peaceful reunification of Korea and the unconditional withdrawal of US troops and nuclear weapons, he stressed, adding: The lack of understanding in the United States as to the issues that confront the Korean people must be, and can be overcome.

Juan Gutierrez, executive director of the One-Stop Immigration and Education Centre, saying that Korea is one, voiced his firm conviction that reunification of the Korean peninsula is an unavoidable one and natural certainty. The question for me is that how should I and all others in the United States do to incorporate to removing the obstacles to the peaceful reunification of Korea, he said, and went on:

The first decision I made was to inform as many people of the United States as possible of what I learned from the the DPRK. Secondly to express to every member of the US Congress that we should end US involvement in the Korean peninsula and a request for the prompt normalization of state relations between our two countries. Expressing his decision to participate in the second grand international march for peace and reunification of Korea to be held next year, he called for a number of delegates of the United States to join the movement.

Doug Jenness, member of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Workers' Party of the USA and editor of the party organ, said that today there are increased opportunities to get a hearing from people in their country for the truth about Washington's continuing military intervention and provocations in Korea.

The fact that gives us confidence is that united efforts to let all the working people and democratic figures know Washington's reactionary role towards Korea will bring about successes undoubtedly and it will be the most effective preparation for opposing the escalated US intervention, he said, stressing:

I strongly support the proposals of the DPRK to tear down the concrete wall between the North and the South and realize free travel and fullscale open-door and to found the democratic confederal republic of Koryo.

Aaron Moss, director of the Greenwich Village Coalition Affiliated With San-Treeze, said having returned home he will tell his friends and the people of the United States that he had seen the concrete wall with his own eyes, and by doing so he will counteract the lie propaganda that there is no concrete wall. Removing the wall between the North and the South will give a vital blow to the imperialists and it is prerequisite to the reunification of Korea, he said, and went on:

The United States should show an active attitude in removing the barrier of Korea as they did for the removal of the Berlin barrier, so as to help reunify Korea.

Ernst Merisier, member of the Executive Board of the United Steel-Workers of America Local 8751, said that the progressive arm of the labour movement in the U.S. has long maintained that the U.S. interference in Korean affairs was unnecessary and its only purpose is to cause hindrances to peace. The U.S. troops do not belong in Korea or any other places in world and the soldiers of the United States should be with their families and dear friends, he said. Peace for Korea, no nukes in Korea he shouted.

Participants View Book Show

SK0509045590 Pyongvang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—A book and photo exhibition for the participants in the seminar of Korea-U.S. anti-war, anti-nuclear organisations and community activists on peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula was held at the People's Palace of Culture on September 4.

Present there were U.S. delegates to the seminar and members of the delegation of the South Korean National Democratic Front and the delegation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.

On hand were Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with the World's Peoples, Kim Yong-ho, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, Han Yong-su, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, Yi Song-ho, vice-chairman of the Korean Anti-Nuclear Peace Committee, and other officials concerned.

The participants saw immortal classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

They also went with keen interest round photographs showing the achievements made by the Korean people in socialist construction, the struggle of South Korean students and people for the reunification of the country and the concrete wall built in the area south of the military demarcation line and so on.

Seminar Closes 4 Sep

SK0409233390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 4 (KCNA)—The seminar of Korea-U.S. anti-war, anti-nuclear organizations and community activists on peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula which opened here on September 3 closed today after successfully discussing the agenda items.

The seminar was a significant joint get-together, the first of its kind in the development of history of the solidarity movement between the Korean and U.S. peace organizations and activists.

Positive ways conducive to peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula were sought at the seminar thanks to the high enthusiasm and sincere efforts of all the participants.

The seminar in session today continued a debate on the agenda before closing.

Speakers evinced their stand and determination to more vigorously wage a joint struggle for peace and reunification of Korea.

A joint declaration of the participants in the seminar, a letter to the U.S. president and a letter to the U.N. secretary general were adopted there.

A press conference with home and foreign reporters was held today upon the successful closing of the seminar.

Japan Socialist Party Delegation Visits DPRK

Visitors Arrive 4 Sep

SK0409233590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 4 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) and the Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) headed by Wataru Kubo, vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the JSP and member of the House of Councillors, and by Hajime Ishii, acting chairman of the Foreign Affairs Research Council of the LDP and member of the House of Representatives, arrived here today.

The delegation consists of members of the House of Representatives—Satao Yamahana, deputy secretary general of the JSP, and Taneaki Tanami, director of the information department of the JSP, and Kazuo Aichi, director of the international department of the LDP, and Masayoshi Takemura.

They were met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea, and other officials concerned.

WPK Hosts Reception

SK0509045990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] gave a party Tuesday evening in honor of the visiting delegation of the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] and the Liberal-Democratic Party of Japan.

Present on invitation were the members of the delegation led by Wataru Kubo, vice-chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the JSP and member of the House of Councillors, and Hajime Ishii, acting chairman of the Foreign Affairs Research Council of the Liberal-Democratic Party of Japan and member of the House of Representatives.

Secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kim Yong-sun and other officials concerned were also present.

Kim Yong-sun spoke first.

Wataru Kubo and Hajime Ishii spoke next.

Attends Meeting on Asian Peace

SK0509053790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0518 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—A solidarity meeting for peace in Asia and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was held here Tuesday.

Speaking at the meeting, Choe Mun-son, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) is conducting a powerful anti-war, anti-nuke movement for peace and disarmament and striving hard to defend the independent rights and vital interests of the broad working masses.

The JSP strives for peace in Asia and the rest of the world in the international arena, too, he said, and stressed:

We rejoice as over our own over all the successes achieved by the Japan Socialist Party and wish the JSP greater success in its future work for peace and democracy and the independent development of people, he said, and added:

The Workers' Party of Korea will as ever continue to develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the JSP under the banner of independence, peace and friendship and more closely make joint efforts in the anti-war, anti-nuke struggle for disarmament and peace.

Masao Sakon, head of the JSP friendship visiting group who is member of the House of Representatives, spoke next:

He said:

We cannot but be surprised to see the wonderful appearance and dazzling development of Korea where everything had been destroyed and reduced to ashes due to the Japanese imperialist colonial rule and the Korean war. All this development is a result of the wise guidance of the great President Kim Il-song and respected Secretary Kim Chong-il who have successfully pushed ahead with the socialist construction by properly enlisting the wisdom and strength of the popular masses.

In order to achieve peace in Asia, the Korean Armistice Agreement must be replaced by a peace agreement and tensions be eased at an early date on the Korean peninsula and the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea be achieved he stressed, and went on:

The Korean peninsula was divided into North and South because of the U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea and it remains divided because Japan and the United States pursue a hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Japan Socialist Party has demanded that the Japanese Government deeply repent of the fact that Japanese imperialism had reduced Korea to its colony and committed aggressive and predatory acts for 36 years, and apologize for them.

The Japanese Government should renounce a hostile policy to the DPRK, rectify its one-sided policy towards South Korea and strive to improve Japan-Korea relations and establish friendly relations and actively promote economic and cultural exchange and travels.

Masaaki Arimoto, deputy head of the delegation, said:

We support the new five-point policy and the disarmament package for the reunification of Korea and demand the withdrawal of nuclear weapons and foreign troops on the Korean peninsula and Japan.

Japanese Youth Council Issues Chuche Paper

SK3108153290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 31 (KCNA)—The Japanese Youth Liaison Council of Societies for the Study of the Chuche Idea published the 221st issue of its paper CHUCHE IDEA.

The paper carries an account of talks held between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

It deals with an international seminar on the chuche idea for global independence and friendship among peoples held in Ecuador.

It gives an article under the title "His Excellency Kim Chong-il is a great thinker and theoretician who enriches and systematically develops the chuche idea."

It carries news that the campaign for the release of Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan and coed Yim Su-kyong is being conducted in different parts of Japan.

Government Marks SRV National Day Anniversary

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings

SK0109102990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 1 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on September 1 sent a message of greetings to Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and Comrade Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the national holiday of Vietnam.

After the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, which marked a fundamental turn in the history of the Vietnamese people, they under the leadership of the Communist Party achieved the complete liberation and unification of their country by repulsing the imperialists' repeated aggression and interference and have made a lot of achievements in the building of a new society, the message said, and stressed:

Today the Vietnamese people are vigorously advancing along the already-chosen road of socialism, adhering to the principles of the revolution.

Expressing the belief that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples forged through the common struggle against the imperialists will grow stronger and develop, the message wished them greater success in their work to implement the decisions of the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Editorials Dedicated to Holiday

SK0209113290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 2 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate editorials to the 45th anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Recalling the arduous struggle and victorious path traversed by the Vietnamese people to defend the freedom and independence of the country from the imperialists', aggression, achieve the reunification of the country and carry on the socialist revolution and construction over the past 45 years, an editorial of NODONG SINMUN says:

The Vietnamese people are convinced through their experience over the past 45 years that only the road of socialism leads them to achieve independence and liquidate exploitation and brings them freedom and happiness.

They, closely rallied around the party, are stepping up the socialist construction with heightened vigilance against the plots of the imperialists and reactionaries to undermine socialism from within.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the successes made by the Vietnamese people.

The Korean and Vietnamese peoples forged and have steadily consolidated and developed friendly relations through the struggle for the victory of the cause of socialism against U.S. imperialism, the common enemy.

The solidity of the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Vietnamese peoples is guaranteed as they are based on the meetings and intimacy between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the respected leader of the Vietnamese people Comrade Ho Chi Minh.

The Korean people value the friendship with the Vietnamese people and will make all their efforts to further consolidate and develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

An editorial of MINJU CHOSON says that the Korean people wish the Vietnamese people greater success in their endeavours to build socialist Vietnam.

Kim Yong-nam Greets New Thai Foreign Minister

SK0309050990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 3 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Subin Pinkhayan on his appointment as foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Believing that the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries will be strengthened and developed constantly in the interests of the two peoples, it wishes him greater success in his responsible work.

Yi Chong-uk Receives New Romanian Ambassador

SK0509113590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1109 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—Yi Chong-ok, vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today received credentials from Aureliu Ioan Lazar, newly appointed Romanian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea. Present at the ceremony was Cha Pong-chu, vice-minister of foreign affairs. Vice-President Yi Chong-ok had a conversation with the ambassador after receiving the credentials.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Libya's Qadhdhafi

SK3108105790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 31 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great September First Revolution of the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the Great September First Revolution in Libya.

The message extends firm solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in their just struggle for foiling the imperialists' continuous manoeuvres aggression and intervention, subversive manoeuvres and sabotages, defending the country's sovereignty and building a new society.

It expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will grow stronger and develop.

Gathering Marks Anniversary

SK0409111790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 4 (KCNA)—A friendship gathering was held at the Korea-Libya Friendship Pyongyang Anhak Senior Middle School on September 3 to mark the 21st anniversary of the September 1st Revolution of the Libyan Arab people.

Present there were Pak Tong-chun, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Libya Friendship Association, and teachers and students of the school.

Asharif G. al-Kalbash, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of Libya to Korea, was present on invitation.

The participants in the gathering saw a performance given by art circle members of the school before having a friendly conversation.

Prior to the gathering, they went round the education facilities of the school.

Nicaragua's Chamorro Sends Greetings to Kim

SK0309052290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 3 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song received a congratulatory message from Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the opening of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Nicaragua and the DPRK.

I am convinced that the friendly and cooperative relations which we have developed in the past will strengthen and develop with each passing day in favour of the interests of the two peoples, the message says.

It welcomes dialogue of the Korean people which is underway to realise the reunification of the country in the near future.

Kim Replies to Chamorro

SK0509112990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1114 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Pyongyang September 5 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message to Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua, in reply to her message of greetings on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Nicaragua.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will further develop, the message wished the president greater success in her work.

South Korea

North-South High-Level Talks Commence in Seoul

Delegates' Dinner Reported

SK0509051490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0107 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP)—Toasting their meeting with South Korean wine, the prime ministers of North and South Korea spent their first evening together getting to know each other over a six-course meal.

The feast began with caviar, prawns and salmon shaped into the oriental yin-yang symbol, which represents harmony, and culminated with coffee and chocolates formed into miniatures of a united Korean peninsula.

Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk and the six other North Korean delegates to the inter-Korean premiers' talks left the hotel Inter-Continental, where they are staying for their four days in Seoul, at 6:45 P.M. on Tuesday to go to the Hilton Hotel for a dinner hosted by South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun. Yon was accompanied by the South Korean national unification minister, Hong Song-chol, and waved to journalists in a composed manner. The other delegates, support personnel and journalists, 89 people in all, clambered aboard 10 sedans and three buses and arrived at the hotel shortly after 7 P.M., some 30 minutes behind schedule.

While waiting for Yon's departure, the North Korean support personnel and journalists mingled with their southern Korean counterparts. A few northern journalists initiated handshakes and posed for southern cameramen, but were silent when asked for personal details such as name, employer and age. They were welcomed by

State Minister for Political Affairs Kim Yun-whan at the Hilton. The two premiers and other officials chatted for about 10 minutes before going in to dinner at 7:20 P.M.

The French-style meal was attended by 220 people from both Koreas and lasted about 100 minutes. Kang and Yon stood in the greeting line and shook hands with the guests one by one.

Kang gave a speech and offered a toast, and Yon followed suit. The dinner proceeded in an amicable atmosphere and some South and North Koreans took pictures together. The 1988 Olympic song, "Hand in Hand," was played as the dinner guests arrived and again when they left, and popular Korean songs such as "Pioneers" and "Longing for Mt. Kumgang" were played by pianist Ko Chong-hui and six other musicians during dinner.

Kang presented Yon with a celadon vase made especially for him by Yu Kun-hyong, a prominent potter, and gave the North Korean support personnel and journalists swatches of cloth and watches. Liquor served at the dinner was all South Korean, as was the Majuang white wine.

The North Koreans brought into the South 89 bags, a picture frame, six sets of communications equipment and 100 cartons, presumed to contain gifts and beverages. The luggage entered the South at around 9:35 A.M. Tuesday at the truce village of Panmunjom and reached the Inter-Continental at 11:45 A.M. Some boxes appeared to contain fruit and drinks.

Flow of Mail, Gifts Detailed

SK0509044090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP)—Liaison officials of the two Koreas talked late into the night Tuesday to make sure every detail of the unprecedented inter-Korean high-level talks was taken care of.

Mail bags carrying letters from the North Korean visitors will be handed over at the truce village of Panmunjom twice daily—at 11 A.M. and 4 P.M.

They exchanged a list of gifts prior to a dinner at the Hilton Hotel hosted by South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun. The North's presents to Kang included a silver tea set, one handicraft item, a vase, silk, 200 sachets of ginseng tea, five bottles of liquor and 20 packs of cigarettes. Kang will present celadon patterned in the style of the Koryo Dynasty to northern Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk as a personal gift. The North is also to give the southern delegates a silver chafing dish, a handicraft, a porcelain vase, silk, ginseng tea, liquor and cigarettes.

North Korean journalists requested a press room closed to South Korean and foreign reporters, saying that in return they would stay out of the southern journalists' press room. There was no word of the reaction of the South Koreans or the foreign press.

Premiers' Opening Remarks

SK0509041490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP)—The 50 North Korean reporters covering the visit to Seoul of the northern prime minister and his talks with the South Korean prime minister Wednesday criticized their southern counterparts.

"Articles in the southern newspapers fail to contribute to national unification," a North Korean reporter said, predicting the talks would be successful.

Some of the northern reporters have discussed the talks with southern journalists and given them leaflets with titles such as "The Sacred, People's Mt. Paektu" and "The 13th World Youth Festival" and the Tuesday editions of their newspapers, NODONG SINMUN, MINJU CHOSON and TONGIL SHINBO.

The North Korean journalists have refused to share the pressroom with South Korean journalists and foreign correspondents and keep the doors tightly closed. Along with Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk, they never refer to Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun by his title but always call him "chief delegate." Some South Koreans wonder if their avoidance of Kang's title is aimed at weakening the official color of the talks.

Before moving on to the agenda, during the first plenary session, the two prime ministers talked about the weather, as is customary when strangers meet. Kang said the South had had much rain this year and Yon said, "we used to have 1,000 millimeters of precipitation a year but we had much more this year." When Yon boasted that many dams along the Taedong River had prevented flooding of rice paddies and fields, Kang responded by saying the South also had many facilities to prevent flooding.

"We have some 16 million bags of rice in reserve and we are going to have a bumper harvest again this year. We will soon experience shortage of warehouses for rice storage," he said.

Journalists' access to the delegates was limited and after covering the opening remarks for about 10 minutes they left the hall. Reporter Kim Chon-il of the NODONG SINMUN asked that two North Korean stenographers be allowed to remain through the session and the request was accepted. Journalists covered the plenary session on closed circuit television.

Kang and Yon entered the grand Celadon Ballroom at 10 A.M. for the first plenary session of the high-level talks accompanied by six delegates each. The delegates posed for photographers and shook hands, but when they tried to sit the cameramen called out in unison "please once more" and "look here." The delegates again shook hands with big grins.

When all the delegates were seated Kang said, "The first South-North High-Level Talks is now opened while 70 million Korean people and the world watch us." He introduced the southern delegates one by one and Yon introduced the northern delegates. In a welcoming speech, Kang said South and North Korea should seek co-existence and co-prosperity, and facilitate national identity and integration while recognizing each other's different systems.

"I believe an environment for political integration will mature if the two sides build a social, cultural and economic community through the opening of each other's societies, exchanges, cooperation and easing of tension.

"Our people have trodden a thorny path of hardships and pains incurred by division and confrontation during the past 45 years. The cause can be found in ideological conflict and the fratricidal war, but a more fundamental reason lies in the cold war structure that has governed international political order.

"Now the peace-loving people of the world are watching here, wondering if the Korean peninsula, the last legacy of the cold war, may give birth to the precious buds of peace too," he said.

In answer to Kang's remarks, Yon said, "I am extremely happy about this meeting, at which we will discuss the important tasks of our people, attended by prime ministers of the North and South for the first time since the national division." He did not hide the deep impression the welcoming crowd had made on him and said, "While I was watching the warm welcome of my southern brethren on my way from Panmunjom to Seoul, I could deeply feel that there is no wall in the hearts of our people even if our national territory is divided." He said the talks had a good start and that he was optimistic about the result.

"In the 1970s and 1980s, there was dialogue but it never progressed. There was agreement, but it was never practiced. Now let's learn a lesson from those times and make our dialogue substantial through mutual understanding and cooperation," he said.

Kang addressed Yon as "Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk" but Yon always called Kang "Mr. Chief Delegate Kang Yong-hun."

Students Demand To Meet North

SK0509052690 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Six university students belonging to the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] gathered in front of the Inter-Continental Hotel at 1100 this morning to demand a meeting with the North Korean delegation, which is staying there. They were all taken to the police station.

In an open letter to addressed to Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, and Premier of the North Korean State Administration Council Yon Hyong-muk, the students demanded adoption at the current high-level talks of a nonaggression declaration, reduction of armed forces of both North and South sides to less than 100,000, and two other points.

On the other hand, the reporters from the North Korean side staying in the hotel came out of the hotel around 1050 and covered the scene outside the hotel, actively gathering news on the scene of Chondaehyop students being forcibly taken to the police station.

Kang Proposes Exchanges

SK0509054490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0532 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP)—Following is a 10-point proposal for inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun put forward in his keynote speech at the premiers' talks Wednesday.

Measures for multifaceted exchanges and cooperation

(1) Locate dispersed family members and relatives and enable them to freely visit and be reunited with each other at an early date:

(2) Realize grand inter-Korean exchanges of people during specified periods around Solnal (Lunar New Year's Day), Tano (a festival on the fifth day of the fifth moon), Liberation Day (Aug. 15), Chusok (the Harvest Moon Festival) and other national holidays and commemorative days and exchange cultural events featuring traditional annual folk performing arts festivals and games:

(3) Discuss with each other and carry out specific plans for exchanges and cooperation among compatriots in the South and the North in the political, economic, social, cultural and other fields:

(4) Open the door for trade as a form of exchange with one nation so that goods needed by each side can be exchanged. Assist traders on both sides in contacting each other with the aim of converting current indirect inter-Korean trade into direct commerce:

(5) Implement all possible forms of economic cooperation, including joint development of resources and joint manufacturing ventures and promote joint business enterprises overseas and joint programs of external cooperation:

(6) Jointly develop tourist resources and jointly carry out tourist businesses. Create a South-North tourist route connecting Mt. Soraksan (in the South) with Mt. Kumgangsan ("the Diamond Mountains" in the North) and establish a South-North joint tourism company to

develop the route. Allow foreign tourists to travel directly between the two parts of Korea:

(7) Reconnect broken off railroads and roads between the South and the North and open inter-Korean sea and air transport services. Reconnect and restore the Seoul-Shinuiju (a city on the border with Manchuria) railroad by August 15, 1991:

(8) Open mail, telegraph and telephone services between the South and the North and allow anyone to use them:

(9) Adopt an agreement on travel, communications and trade to institutionally ensure multifaceted exchanges and cooperation: and

(10) Establish a joint economic cooperation organization co-headed by officials with the rank of deputy prime minister, as has already been agreed at South-North economic talks.

Political, Military Proposals

SK0509061290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0551 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP) - Following is an eight-point proposal for building political and military trust between Seoul and Pyongyang that South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun proposed in his keynote speech at the inter-Korean premiers' talks Wednesday.

Measures for building political and military trust

building political confidence

(1) Based on mutual recognition of and respect for each other's political and social system, cease all forms of character assassination, slander and vilification and discontinue the spreading of leaflets and loudspeaker broadcasts across the Demilitarized Zone:
(2) Allow mutual public access to newspapers, radio, television and books and magazines so that our compatriots in the two parts of Korea can be familiarized with each other's true situation: and
(3) Establish a permanent liaison mission in both Seoul and Pyongyang to facilitate the improvement of South-North relations through closer consultation and contact and thus to consolidate the foundations for peace and unification.

Building military confidence
(4) Implement mutual visits and exchanges between military personnel:
(5) Mutually disclose and exchange military information:
(6) Notify each other in advance of the movement of military units of certain size or larger and also of military maneuverings on a certain scale or larger and invite observers specifically, beginning on January 1, 1991, notify each other of the movement of military units and military maneuverings of brigade size or larger 45 days in advance.
(7) Immediately establish and operate a telephone hotline between the minister of national defense of the Republic of Korea and the minister of the People's Armed Forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with a view to preventing an accidental armed clash and to keep such a clash from escalating: and
(8) Genuinely demilitarize the Demilitarized Zone and use it for peaceful purposes.

Presents Arms Proposals

SK0509062490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0607 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP)—Following is a proposal for arms reduction South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun made in his keynote address Wednesday at the inter-Korean premiers' meeting.

Measures for implementing South-North arms reductions

(1) Both the South and the North should transform their offensive military structure into a defensive one. As long as both sides keep their military forces organized and deployed for offensive purposes, it will hardly be possible to verify their commitment to peace nor to prevent another war. Accordingly, both parties should first reduce their offensive military forces. This is essential to preventing a renewal of war due to either a surprise attack or an all-out attack.

(2) Both the South and the North should agree to possess equal numbers of troops and weapons so that a balance of military power can be maintained. This is because an imbalance in military might increases the danger of renewed war. Accordingly, the side with larger armed forces should first reduce them to the level of the other side to achieve an equilibrium. Both sides should then progressively reduce their Armed Forces by equal numbers.

(3) Both the South and the North should reduce the number of their troops in accordance with reductions in their arms, while also reducing their reserve and paramilitary forces.

(4) Both the South and the North should allow, without fail, the other side to conduct on-the-spot verifications and monitoring to ensure that agreed matters regarding arms reductions are implemented. Toward that end, the South and the North should form and operate a joint verification group and permanent monitoring groups.

(5) The final reduced level of armed forces that both the South and North may maintain should be determined through mutual consultation in consideration of the military capabilities needed by a unified state.

First Day of Talks Summarized

SK0509080890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0717 GMT 5 Sep 90

[By Hong Sang-pyo]

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (OANA-YONHAP)—A historic meeting between the prime ministers of the two Koreas opened on Wednesday in Seoul with discussions on reducing tension and hostilities in one of the world's most tense regions as a prelude to reunification.

South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun called on the North to sign a draft eight-point agreement on improving inter-Korean relations and unifying the Korean peninsula. Kang also suggested in his keynote speech a 10-point plan for exchange and cooperation between the halves, featuring economic and personnel exchanges, an eight-point plan for building political and military confidence and a five-point arms control proposal. The draft agreement was apparently formed by lumping together the proposals on confidence building, resolving confrontation and promoting exchange and cooperation. It aimed at integrating the two Koreas, which fought a bitter war during 1950-1953 and have since remained adversaries despite the ardent aspirations of all Koreans for unification.

North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk countered with two proposals—one on resolving political confrontation, and the other on resolving military confrontation. Yon, stopping just short of setting conditions for reducing political and military tension and building confidence, demanded that South Korea abolish its National Security Law and release those arrested for visiting North Korea, including the Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-kwan and radical student Yim Su-kyong.

Yon also called for dismantling what the South fervently denies is a concrete wall in the Demilitarized Zone and for the two Koreas to join the United Nations with a single seat, making it uncertain if the two sides can reach an agreement.

The meeting was the highest encounter between the two sides since division of the Korean peninsula in 1945. The talks began with about 20 minutes of free conversation between the seven delegates on each side, and continued with keynote speeches by Kang and Yon. There was no discussion of the proposals in the first round of the talks, which was open to the press. The two sides are expected to discuss the proposals in the second round of talks behind closed doors on Thursday. Observers also expect unofficial meetings between the prime ministers or among working-level officials for deeper discussions.

In their keynote speeches, which laid out the proposals, both sides had the same view on some points but there were differences on many issues concerning a guarantee of peace, and ways of resolving political and military confrontation and implementing exchange and cooperation.

The North Korean delegates are scheduled to call on President No Tae-u on Thursday afternoon after the two rounds of talks and are likely to hand him a personal letter from North Korean leader Kim Il-song.

As for a guarantee of peace on the Korean peninsula, the two sides called for signing a non-aggression pact and replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement. But the South said the two accords should precede arms control while the North insisted arms control come first.

In addition, the North contended the peace agreement should be signed by North Korea and the United States, the main actors in the Korean Armistice Agreement in 1953 that ended the Korean war, but the South suggested it be signed by South and North Korea.

On measures to resolve political and military confrontation, the southern side presented a three-stage arms control proposal—first, building political confidence: second, building military confidence: and third, reducing armed forces. The North also called for confidence building and armed forces reduction, but made it clear it thought that disarmament should precede confidence building. The North also demanded withdrawal of foreign military forces and nuclear weapons from Korea, suspension of joint military exercise with foreign forces, and making the Korean peninsula a nuclear free zone.

But both sides, as a step to build military confidence, proposed establishing a hotline between military authorities to prevent hostile actions and make the Demilitarized Zone a peace zone. As part of confidence building measures, the South proposed the mutual recognition of each others' political and social systems, the establishment of permanent liaison missions in Seoul and Pyongyang, renunciation of mutual slandering and vilification, free access by all Koreans to each other's radio and television programs and renunciation of any attempts to sabotage or overthrow each other's governments. The North had the same view on renunciation of mutual slandering but did not mention the other proposals.

Kang did not refer to Korea's admission to the United Nations in his keynote speech, but the North apparently placed great priority on the issue by stating that the matter should be concluded in the prime ministers' talks and contending that the two Koreas should join the world body with a single seat. The South has sought to enter the U.N. alone or simultaneously with the North.

On exchange and cooperation, the South suggested the two sides sign accords on travel, transportation and communications to institutionalize inter-Korean cooperation and exchange.

The southern side also called for dialogue between responsible authorities, contending the government should be the sole channel for dialogue. But the North renewed its call for a meeting of high-level authorities and political party leaders to discuss free personnel exchanges, and insisted that dialogue channels be open to all groups from the two sides. The South suggested mutual visits by people aged 60 or above from dispersed families be realized first.

On economic exchange, on which Seoul has placed priority, the southern side presented a package of proposals, including direct trade, joint development of natural and tourism resources, joint participation in projects in third countries, reopening railways, air routes, sea lanes and telephone lines between the South and North, and establishment of a joint economic cooperation body. The North just proposed that the two sides realize joint economic ventures and cooperation, reopen transportation, mail and telephone links and promote external economic cooperation.

The draft agreement proposed by the southern premier calls for mutual recognition of and respect for each other's systems until unification is realized, renunciation of mutual slandering and vilification, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, peaceful solution through dialogue and compromise of disputes or differences, renunciation of any attempts to destroy or overthrow each other's governments and joint efforts for realizing various exchanges and cooperation, opening each other's societies and restoring bonds of kinship.

It also calls for ending the arms race and for arms control to resolve the armed confrontation and build military trust, ceasing unnecessary competition and confrontation, and transforming the present armistice arrangement into a peace system.

"Unification must be brought about independently, peacefully and democratically to be conducive to grand national unity... It is vital to absolutely preclude the use of arms or violence by either side under any circumstances," Kang said.

Yon urged in his keynote speech that the South reaffirm its determination to abide by the three principles of unification declared in the 1972 South-North joint communique—self-reliance, peace and grand national unity. Yon, accompanied by 83 officials and journalists, arrived in Seoul on Tuesday for a four-day stay as the highest-ranking official guest from the North since national division.

'Limit' to Cooperation in Gulf Crisis Stressed

SK0509064890 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 1 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The Limit to Supporting the Situation in the Persian Gulf"]

[Text] At a time when no noticeable diplomatic breakthrough is seen in the military blockade operation led by the United States against Iraq, the United States strongly demanded the offering of equipment and the sharing of expenditure by the interested countries. Such demands by the U.S. side, in principle, are not considered unreasonable, nor should they be ignored.

If Iraq's annexation of Kuwait is tolerated as an established fact, there would be even a greater danger that those who recklessly pursue heroism and attempt to resolve by means of armed forces various problems causing disputes between and among the countries and peoples, that are latent in many parts of the world, will appear. Therefore, it is the earnest desire of all peace-loving people of the world to restore the original state of Kuwait.

Besides, there is the possibility that the Iraqi situation may threaten the essential sources of oil and throw its price system into confusion. Therefore, it is directly linked with the economic interest of nearly every country. This being the case, the assertion that all the interested countries should cooperate with demonstrations of armed force, since they are aimed at bringing about a peaceful solution to the Iraqi situation, appear to be reasonable. No one can deny that our country is also one of the interested countries.

But there is a certain, clear limit to such cooperation by any country. As for our case, in particular, the limit is extremely narrow compared to that of the Western countries. Thus, the government should confirm such limits, and clearly show to the United States what we can do and what we cannot do.

The first thing we should put into consideration in drawing the line between what we can do and cannot do is our capability. Our trade went into the black four years ago. It turned into red figures recently, however. One of the main reasons for this is the steps for rapid opening of markets that was enforced by the United States. Opening of the markets, though its inevitability should be admitted, came at the time to coincide with our internal changes, including the course of political and economic democratization and reform of the industrial structure. It therefore brought about such serious results as to threaten the advance of our economy. This being the case, we have no surplus strength to be directed for cooperation.

Second, as far as the fundamental issue in the Iraqi situation is concerned, there is no difference in the national interests between us and the United States. But there can be a difference in the issue as to whether the solution to the Iraqi situation should be brought about only by means of force and in the long-range by diplomacy toward Iraq and in a broader sense, the overall Arab sphere. In the event the situation in the Middle East is further aggravated than it is today—and the present structure, in which Iraq stands against the entire world, turns into another structure in which the Arab world stands against the United States or the Western sphere—our nation can hardly follow the present global strategy and policy of the United States.

We would like to make it clear that because of consideration of these two factors, our cooperation should be limited to active cooperation for a collective blockade taking place according to the UN resolution and to offering of transport means and nonlethal equipment, which reportedly is to be offered to the United States. On the other hand, our funds, which we could share and which could be used for any purpose, should not be offered.

It was learned that U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas Brady soon will visit our country to ask our nation to share the expenditure for the operation of armed forces in the Persian Gulf. Taking this opportunity, we call on the government to make its position clear to the United States. We certainly understand the difficult position of the government. But we would like to point out that one should not act to damage the national interest in the long run by ignoring public opinion, as it did in the past era of authoritarianism.

Increase in Burden of U.S. Upkeep Proposed

SK0309233690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Korea intends to increase its "direct costs" for the upkeep of U.S. troops posted here by $50 million next year to about $330 million, Defense Ministry officials said yesterday.

One official said the increase will be used for salaries of Korean employees of the U.S. military units. The Korean Government has said it will pay about $280 million for U.S. troops this year in direct costs, including $34 million in the Combined Defense Improvement Program, and $1.9 billion in indirect costs.

The official, who wanted to remain anonymous, said the ministry is asking the Economic Planning Board [EPB] to approve the ministry- proposed 1991 defense budget, which includes a $50 million increase in the burden-sharing. But he said, "The figure can be different depending on how much EPB and the National Assembly act on our own defense budget.

"We are asking an over 18 percent hike but EPB is suggesting only 12 percent at best."

Consumer Group Demands Ban on U.S. Fruit

SK0509020690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] The U.S.-produced lemons marketed in Korea are found to have been tainted with 2-4D (dichlorephemoxy), a kind of defoilant, but do not pose any health hazards, the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs announced yesterday.

An inspection of samples of lemons brought from the United States and put on sale at the Karak-tong Agricultural Wholesale Market in eastern Seoul showed that the Ulmate product contained 2-4D of 0.0314 ppm (parts per million) and the Sunkist product, 0.0281 ppm, the ministry said. An official at the ministry's Food Management Division said the residual levels of the farm chemical in lemons are "negligible" because they measure one-third of the official limit on U.S.-produced rice and one seventh of the permissible limit on Japanese rice.

Quarantine offices will beef up checks into the farm chemicals in imported lemons, said the official, adding that Korea has set no official limits on 2-4D in lemons.

The testing conducted by the National Institute of Health was prompted by a report that samples of the U.S.-made fruit were stained with the farm chemical. Korea has imported 2,000 tons of lemons from the United States so far this year, but no Dole products at issue in Japan have been brought into the country since last June, the official said. However, Korean consumer organizations have demanded a ban on the domestic sale of the U.S.-made fruit, saying that 2-4D contains "oxydin," a carcinogenic substance. Meanwhile, the ministry will conduct another testing to determine whether the imported lemons contain enil comazole, a preservative as reported in Japan, ministry officials said.

It was reported on Monday that the Japanese agricultural cooperatives federation has decided to impose a ban on the distribution of the fruit allegedly tainted with the preservative, citing a breach of contract. If the fruit is tainted with the preservative, now banned in Korea, the ministry will also ban the imports, officials said.

Vladivostok Mayor Discusses Air, Sea Links

SK0509050090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0125 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Vladivostok, Sept. 5 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Soviet Far Eastern city of Vladivostok will be developed into a center for three-way trade with Seoul and Tokyo, and welcomes and encourages South Korean businesses, Vladivostok Mayor Yevgeny Brinov said Wednesday.

Meeting with foreign reporters, the mayor also said talks are under way to establish sisterhood ties between the major port cities of Pusan and Vladivostok.

"The Soviet Union will actively induce foreign investment for the next three to five years to expand the facilities at Vladivostok Airport," Brinov said.

The airport will become the focal point for triangular trade connecting Seoul, Tokyo and Vladivostok, he said.

City officials are ready to pursue various projects in cooperation with South Korea, including joint investments and technological tie-ups, he emphasized. The Soviet Government is studying the possible setup of free export zones in Vladivostok and Nakhodka, the mayor added.

Talks are under way between the two countries to launch a regular air route between Seoul and Vladivostok and a direct sea route between Pusan and Vladivostok. The mayor said final agreements are likely to be reached very soon on these matters.

* Major Soviet-Trade Conglomerates Identified

902C0248A Seoul CHUGAN MAEKYONG in Korean No 559,28 Jun 90 pp 29-33

[Article by reporter Yi Ho-kil: "Leading Businessmen in the Drama of Triumphant Entry Into the Fortress of the Soviet Market"]

[Text] Korean conglomerates are moving fast to establish a line of economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. With the prospect for formal diplomatic relations between the ROK and the Soviet Union brightening as a result of the ROK-USSR summit talks, they have been reviewing their Soviet investment plans which were put on the back burner temporarily, as their officials made frequent visits to the Soviet Union.

They have expanded their Soviet project offices, and as they engage in a fierce competition to scout experts in Soviet affairs, their Soviet experts who remained in obscurity in the past are suddenly finding themselves in the limelight.

The following are a conglomerate-by-conglomerate account of who are the main figures running the "special procurement boom" train and how their special project teams are in operation.

HYUNDAI:

Chairman Chong is in personal command of economic cooperation with the USSR

The foremost Soviet expert in the Hyundai group is Honorary Chairman Chong Chu-yong. He has already visited the Soviet Union as many as five times, and is in overall charge of the Hyundai group's economic cooperation with the Soviet Union on the basis of his intimate relationship with high-ranking Soviet Government economic officials. Currently, he is visiting the Soviet Union for the sixth time. He has a special attachment to a Yakutsk natural gas development plan involving Siberia, North Korea, South Korea, and Japan. He is pushing his idea of establishing a line of economic cooperation with North Korea, using the Soviet Union as a leverage.

It is common knowledge inside and outside the Hyundai group that no one in South Korea can come close to Honorary Chairman Chong in depth and breadth of knowledge on Soviet affairs. He has proposed large-sale Northern projects one after another, and he is said so well versed in technical matters also that each time company officials submit a report to him, he goes over it and orders complementary measures hitting the nail on the head.

18-Man Soviet Operations Office, "Largest"

Besides Chairman Chong, Yi Myong-pak, chairman of Hyundai Engineering Construction Co, is leading the Hyundai group's business operations in the Soviet Union, and Chu Kang-su, 46-year-old executive director of Hyundai Corporation, is in charge of actual operations in his capacity as the head of the Soviet Operations Office. Kim Tae-yun, managing director of Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co, (49), is in charge of actual operations in the field of construction, and Director Won Chong-yong of Hyundai Wood Industries, in the field of forestry development.

Chu Kang-su, a graduate of the Geology Department of Seoul National University, received his master's degree from an American university. He is a first-rate expert in the theories of overseas resources, with his 10 years of overseas duties with Okpang Mine and the American CCM company. After joining the Hyundai group in 1978 as assistant chief of the Office of Planning and Management of Hyundai Heavy Industries, he has handled business associated with resources in Hyundai Corporation and Hyundai Engineering & Construction. Concrete business projects in the Soviet Union are mostly prepared by him.

Managing Director Kim Tae-yun is an expert of Hyundai Engineering and Construction on receiving orders. An authority on the Soviet Union, he accompanied Honorary Chairman Chong four times on trips to the Soviet Union. After graduating from the Koryo University Department of Government Administration, he joined the Hyundai group in 1968 by passing the employment examination. He has served overseas for slightly over 10 years in Guam, Bahrain, and Riyadh.

Among other staff members for Soviet operations with strong field qualifications, we should also include Managing Director Han Tong-su, (49); and Yi Kang-il, an associate director, (46), who heads the Nakhotska branch.

Managing Director Han, after graduating from the Seoul National University Department of Linguistics, worked successively in Tongjin Corporation and Sam-Hwa Printing Co before joining Hyundai Corporation in 1977. From 1984 through 1987 he worked in the Dammam branch in the Middle East. While serving as the head of the London branch from 1984 through 1987, he expanded his knowledge of the Soviet Union. Known for his excellent linguistic ability and for his strong mental resiliency, he was chosen as the first Moscow branch head last August.

Unlike other big firms, Hyundai has no other special unit than the one associated with its Soviet projects. Its Soviet Operations Office, headed by Executive Director Chu Kwang-su, was reorganized as an independent entity as of 1 May. Practical feasibility studies are conducted mainly by this office. It is divided into two departments, operations and trade, and there are 18 staff members altogether, including the two department chiefs, three assistant department chiefs, and three section chiefs.

In addition to the Soviet Operations Office, the Hyundai group has a three to four-man special team for each project, and these teams have organic operational ties with the Soviet Operations Office. The individual project teams established in seven different fields including timber, construction, electronics, resources, hold meetings in the Soviet Operations Office about twice a week to exchange information they have collected since their last meeting.

SAMSUNG:

Chairman Sin Hyon-hwak and other leaders are directly involved

In the Samsung group, Chairman Yi Kon-hui once spearheaded its efforts to explore markets in Hungary and other East European countries. But, the current leadership lineup for Soviet operations is centered on Sin Hyon-hwak, chairman of Samsung Corporation; Kang Chin-ku, vice chairman of Samsung Electronics; and Yi Pil-kon, president of Samsung Corporation.

In the Samsung group, it was working-level officials that handled Soviet trade, mainly in commodities, in the past. But, recently it drew attention when its top-level officials were frequently visiting the Soviet Union, resulting in the shift of focus in its dealings with the Soviet Union from commodity trade to investment.

Last month Vice Chairman Kang Chin-ku and President Yi Pil-kon visited the Soviet Union separately for talks with high-level Soviet economic figures. Through these talks, they landed an all-electronic switchboard project, thereby gaining the reputation that the Samsung group is as strong as Hyundai in terms of ability to push economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. Recently, the group drew keen attention not only from the business community but also from political circles when Chairman Sin Hyon-hwak visited the Soviet Union carrying President No Tae-u's personal message.

Among Soviet experts representing the Samsung group are Chae O-pyong, vice president of Samsung Corporation; Pak Chol-won, (46), who supervises the overseas operations of Samsung Corporation; and An Chong-sang, (43), managing director of the office of the secretary to the chairman.

Six Men in Charge of Two Market Exploration Teams

Vice President Chae, who originally joined the group in 1965 through an open competition, served as the head of the New York branch for a full three years from 1987 through this February before returning home to become vice president of Samsung Corporation. Soon after his return home, he stood in the vanguard of the group's northern operations, and in his capacity as the representative of the Samsung group, accompanied Kim Yong-sam, senior supreme council member of the DLP [Democratic Liberal Party], when the latter visited the Soviet Union. He is particularly known as one of the foremost experts on resources. People around him say he has a broad vision and foresight.

Managing Director Pak, who took charge of the market exploration team this February, is the Samsung group's expert on international finance. He graduated the Department of Business Administration at the College of Commerce, Seoul National University. After working in the Foreign Exchange Bank for five years, he was specially appointed as chief of the Financial Section of Samsung Corporation in 1975. He prepared himself to become an expert on international finance while working as assistant chief of the London branch beginning in 1977.

Managing Director An Chong-sang, who is in charge of the international operations team in the office of the secretary, is a scholarly type—he graduated from the Department of Textile Engineering at the College of Engineering, Seoul National University, and obtained a master's degree from Harvard University in the United States. After joining Samsung Corporation in 1977, he continued to work until he was named head of its market exploration team. During this period, he was in charge of the company's trade with communist countries. He was involved in most of Samsung's trade with communist countries in the 1980's. He was transferred to the office of the secretary in the regular personnel reshuffle early this year, but he still exercises his influence behind the scenes.

In the Samsung group, two market exploration teams consisting of six working-level officials handle technical aspects of trade with the Soviet Union. The teams are under Cho Kyong-han, who ranks between the department chief and associate executive officer. He joined Samsung from the Daewoo group in 1979. He is an expert on transportation equipment. With his experience as chiefs of the Jidda and Riyadh branches, he is recognized as an international trade expert.

The two market exploration teams of Samsung Corporation analyze field information received from the Moscow branch, and when a project enters the stage of working out details for execution, they turn it over to the project team in a pertinent firm in the group so that it can push the project. The market exploration teams have an organic information-exchange channel with the overseas operation team in the office of the secretary.

LUCKY-GOLDSTAR:

Chairman Ku and President Pyon are at the top of the command line

The top leaders of the Lucky-Goldstar group have recently been actively involved in the exploration of the Soviet market. Chairman Ku Pyong-hoe and President Pyon Kyu-chil of Goldstar Corporation serve as points of contact, and they are the key leaders in command of market exploration. Chairman Ku headed the economic mission which accompanied Kim Yong-sam, senior supreme council member of the DLP, during the latter's Moscow visit early this year.

In addition, President Kang Kil-won of Lucky Development Co is pushing a Leningrad development project jointly with the American Bechtel Corp, and President Yi Hon-cho of Goldstar Co is exploring the Soviet market in the electronics field.

In the Lucky-Goldstar group, Department Directors Chon Song-chin, 47, and Paek Yong-pin, 37, are among working-level experts on the Soviet Union.

Chon Song-chin, a graduate of the Department of Applied Chemistry at the College of Engineering of Seoul National University, gained practical experience in trade with communist countries while serving as head of the Taiwan branch. At the Beijing University seminar last year, he read a paper entitled "The Key to Success in Joint Ventures in China." His knowledge of China is so thorough that this paper was subsequently printed in the Beijing University academic journal. As the prospect for trade with the Soviet Union brightened, he began to get deeply involved in trade with the Soviet Union.

Paek Yong-pin, who heads the Soviet-East European team in the Market Exploration Department, established himself as expert on East Europe while serving as head of the Vienna branch for six years from 1983.

Primarily, in the Lucky-Goldstar group, a four-man Soviet-East European team is in charge of matters relating to economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. However, Lucky Development Co recently set up a working-level team of its own as it launched big projects.

The Lucky-Goldstar group currently has no other branch than the Moscow branch, but it plans to set up branches in various Soviet republics.

DAEWOO:

Vice President Choe Chu-yong is in overall charge; the Soviet project team has a seven-man staff

Until early last year Chairman Kim U-chung of the Daewoo group had been active in promoting economic cooperation with the Soviet Union by frequently visiting Moscow. But recently, economic cooperation activity stalled temporarily due to the efforts to normalize operations in Daewoo Shipbuilding & Heavy Industry Co.

In the Daewoo group, Vice President Choe Chu-yong of Daewoo Corporation is in overall charge of dealings with the Soviet Union, and he is assisted on the operational level by Executive Director Chang Kun-sop, who is in charge of the regional control office, and Director Kwon Yong-chol who heads the Moscow branch.

Kwon, 43, a graduate of the College of Education, Seoul National University, joined Daewoo in 1972, and subsequently gained experience in overseas operations while working in the Chicago branch. He has an outstanding ability to read international economic trends, and he won the confidence of Chairman Kim U-chung and was chosen as chief of the Moscow branch.

At present Daewoo has a Soviet operations group consists of seven staff members, but it plans to reinforce it this year with four additional members who are proficient in the Russian language and who are well versed in Soviet affairs.

SUNKYONG:

Vice President Yi Kang-se supports a special four-man working-level team

In the Sunkyong group, Vice President Yi Kang-se renders overall assistance in handling trade with the Soviet Union, and technical aspects of trade operations are handled by a team headed by Executive Director Yu Chol-ung, (49), who heads Sunkyong's Marketing Management Department. Pak Son-chun, 48, head of the Moscow branch, and Chong Chon-yong, 48, chief of the market exploration office, are members of this team.

Executive Director Yu, a graduate of the College of Economics, Songgyungwan University, handled foreign currency transactions in the Bank of Seoul for a while before joining Sunkyong in 1976. In Sunkyong, he served successively as the director of the Heavy Industry Department and the Asian Regional Department. While promoting trade with China in his capacity as director of the Asian Regional Department, he emerged as the most influential person in the Sunkyong group as far as trade with communist countries was concerned. He is known for his expertise on foreign exchange and international finance. Director Pak, a graduate of the Department of Business Administration and the graduate school of Yonsei University, had pushed trade with communist countries as the head of the Overseas Operations Promotion Department, the forerunner of the Market Exploration Office, in Sunkyong until last year. In June he was appointed as head of the Moscow branch.

Chong Chon-yong, chief of the Market Exploration Office, is in overall control of practical aspects of trade with the Soviet Union under Executive Director Yu Chol-ung. Chong handled foreign exchange business in the Bank of Korea for a while before joining Sunkyong in 1977. In Sunkyong he headed the Hong Kong branch before beginning to play his role as the contact point in Soviet trade in his capacity as the head of the Market Exploration Office last October. He has an outstanding finesse for international business operation.

Sunkyong's special working-level Soviet-trade staff consists of four men including the director and a section chief.

SSANGYONG:

Executive Director Kim Tok-hwan and Managing Director Chong Yong-u lead the Soviet Operations Office

In the Ssangyong group, Kim Tok-hwan, executive director of Ssangyong Corporation, 47, heads the Soviet Operations Office, and Managing Director Chong Yong-u, 45, is in overall control of commodity trade business.

The Ssangyong group's Soviet Operations Office staff consists of seven men, including Executive Director Chong; An Chong-won, managing director in charge of steel; Director Kim Chang-hwan, chief of the strategic project team; Kim Ho-rim, chief of the overseas operations team. In the past the staff of the Soviet Operations Office met once every two weeks, but they now meet twice a week to discuss various strategic matters.

Executive Director Kim Tok-hwan is a graduate of the Department of Political Science at the College of Liberal Arts and Science of Seoul National University. After passing the civil service examination in government administration, he served successively as a Grade-5 official at the Trade Promotion Office of the Department of Commerce and Industry and as senior secretary at the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry before joining Ssangyong in 1975. In Ssangyong he served successively as chief of the Cement Department (board member)in 1981 and managing director in 1983, and was promoted to the post of executive director in 1985. While serving as director of the Cement Business Department, he strengthened trade operations with communist countries. He is reputed for his acumen in business administration, a fitting quality for as a man who passed the civil service examination in government administration.

HYOSUNG:

Managing Director Mun Tong-min Has an outstanding experience in pushing trade with communist countries for 10 years

In the Hyosung group, the top expert on the Soviet Union is Managing Director Mun Tong-min, 53, who commands the Special Project Department of Hyosung Corporation. Mun, a graduate of the College of Engineering, Seoul National University, worked for the Bank of Korea and Korea Petroleum Corporation before joining Hyosung in 1979. In Hyosung, he has led the Special Project Department since 1981. Having nearly 10 years of experience in promoting trade with communist countries, he is known as a top-ranking Korean expert on Soviet trade. According to sources in the group, Mun never does things hastily and has excellent judgment.

So Sung-u, director of the Special Project Department, who assists Managing Director Mun, is an indispensable expert on northern operations in Hyosung. With his seven years of overseas service experience as the chief of the London and Lagos branches, he is an expert on international finance.

KOREA EXPLOSIVES COMPANY:

Director Kim Chi-hwan, head of the overseas development team, is the number-one expert on the Soviet Union in the group

Korea Explosives Company's contact point for Soviet transactions is the overseas development team in Golden Bell Company. Director Kim Chi-hwan, 46, who heads this team, is the number-one expert on the Soviet Union in this group. Kim, a graduate of the Department of Government Administration at Koryo University, sharpened his business acumen on trade with communist countries while serving as the head of the Singapore branch for many years. He is a master in theory and practice, particularly strong in the engineering field.

KOLON:

Five-man team takes exclusive charge of Soviet operations under overall accountability of Managing Director Song Tae-pyong

In the Kolon group Managing Director Song Tae-pyong, director of the Development Department, has overall accountability for trade with the Soviet Union and supervises a five-man Soviet operations team under him.

Song, a graduate of the Department of Textile Engineering at the College of Engineering, Seoul National University, joined Kolon from the government. In Kolon he has been in overall command of new projects. Meticulous and rational in pushing projects, he is always prudent in business approach to the Soviet Union. Yet, once the examination of the plan is completed, he boldly pushes it with might and main. Kim Ho-sung, head of the Soviet and East European project team, assists Executive Director Song. He is also a graduate of the Department of Textile Engineering at the College of Engineering, Seoul National University. Having worked in the Los Angeles branch for six years, he has a reputation for expertise on overseas operations.

Details on Ferry Service to China Reported

SK0509021890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 5 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] A passenger shipping service will be launched on Sept. 15 between Inchon in Korea and Weihai, Shandong Province, China, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration reported yesterday.

Six Korean firms have already formed a consortium to undertake the first-ever passenger service between the two countries. Two Chinese firms will take care of services on the Weihai side.

The joint shipping company, Weidong Transport, has been capitalized at $1 million with both the Korean and Chinese side sharing equal costs and plans to employ a 5,400-ton vessel named Golden Bridge on the route. An official said it is capable of carrying 500 passengers and 100 twenty-foot containers. The vessel will be flagged Panamanian as the two nations have no diplomatic relations, he added.

The official added both sides are in a hurry to see service come into being so as to participate in the transport of tourists who will visit Beijing during the Asian Games slated for Sept. 22-Oct. 7. The vessel will depart Inchon at 4 p.m. every Wednesday and Saturday and will leave Weihai at 5 p.m. every Monday and Thursday. It takes anywhere from 17 hours to 19 hours to complete the voyage. Passenger fares ranges from $90 a person to $400.

Visas will be issued to Korean tourists aboard the ship and to Chinese in Hong Kong or at a consulate or embassy of China in third countries, the official said.

Ambassador Kim Yong-chip Evacuated From Liberia

SK0509043690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0211 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korean Ambassador Kim Yong-chip was evacuated from strife-torn Liberia over the weekend and has arrived in neighboring Sierra Leone with four other Koreans, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. There are still 26 South Koreans voluntarily in Liberia with no sign of a threat to their safety, a ministry official said.

He said Kim boarded a U.S. helicopter at the U.S. Embassy in Liberia and spent a night on a U.S. Navy vessel before arriving in the Sierra Leonean capital of Free Town Monday. Kim had evacuated 120 Koreans since the civil war broke out in Liberia, the official said.

ROK, Australia Sign Extradition Treaty

SK0509083790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0814 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 5 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Australia signed an extradition treaty on Wednesday under which they will hand over citizens who are charged with a crime that carries a penalty of one-year in jail or more or who are fugitives. Political prisoners will not be returned under the accord, the first of its kind for Korea.

Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam and his Australian counterpart, M.J. Duffy, signed the agreement in a ceremony at the Korean Justice Ministry. A ministry official said the government concluded the treaty with Australia in order to facilitate cooperation and cope with the increasing number of residents in each other's country. About 25,000 Koreans live in Australia while 342 Australians reside in Korea. Some 22,000 people of the two countries visit the other country annually and the numbers are expected to grow in the future, the official said.

The government will make efforts to conclude similar treaties with the United States, Japan, and Canada, he said.

Defense To Place Civilians in Noncombat Duties

SK0309082190 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 30 Aug 90 p 2

[Text] The National Defense Ministry is examining a plan by which active-duty soldiers will take charge of security planning, military operations, and other specialized duties and by which civilian officials (government officials) will take charge of finance, introduction of weapons, procurement, and other noncombat duties.

In an effort to bring up civilian officials who deal with national defense affairs to high-class specialized officials, the National Defense Ministry also is examining a plan to change the status of government officials who are working in the national defense sector (the National Defense Ministry and offices under its control and the three armed force services and military units under their control) to that of "national defense officials," who, like officials in the National Security Planning Agency, the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and the police, are categorized as special-duty government officials. This move attracts people's attention because the National Defense Ministry itself is attempting to civilianize its administrative affairs.

The National Defense Ministry is examining the "national defense official system" because it has come to believe that the gradual growth of the national defense budget has made it necessary for specialized personnel to handle budgetary matters, supplies, the introduction and maintenance of weapons, and external diplomacy in the national defense sector.

The National Defense Ministry at the end of last year asked the Korea Strategic Affairs Institute (Director Hong Song-tae), a civilian institute, to study "how to establish the national defense official system" and recently received a report from this institute. The study points out that the most significant problem is that many more active-duty soldiers are working in the national defense administration sector than civilian government officials.

The study also says that about two thirds of department and bureau chiefs in the National Defense Ministry are colonels and generals on active duty and that, as a result, the morale of civilian officials in the ministry is so low that they want to leave the ministry because it is difficult to get promoted. The study notes that people worry about side effects from this phenomenon.

The study also points out that a system in which active-duty soldiers are transferred from one post to another every one or two years doesn't allow ministry personnel to specialize in national defense affairs and doesn't build the continuity required to map and carry out national defense policies.

Government Vows To Continue Farm Subsidies

SK0409093490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0831 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 4 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) agreed on Tuesday to continue farm subsidies no matter what happens at the Uruguay Round.

Korea needs enough time to fundamentally reform its infantile agricultural sector, and so it was decided to expand government relief and crop insurance to shield farmers from the impact of the Uruguay Round, a spokesman said.

The DLP asked the government to intensify its public relations effort regarding the Uruguay Round, saying Korea's farmers are misinformed and think the damage will be disastrous. Further study is needed on forming an agricultural development committee, directly controlled by the president and comprising experts from government and related institutions, to map out intermediate- and long-term plans, he said.

The decisions were made in a meeting attended by Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Kang Po-song.

* Cabinet System Tied to Post-No Power Sharing

902C0244A Seoul WOLGAN CHUNGANG in Korean Jun 90 pp 154-173

[Article by political commentator Yi Yong-sok: "The Revision of the Constitution Designed To Introduce the Cabinet System, and the Structure of One No and Three Kims"]

[Excerpts] **Fast Move Toward Constitutional Revision for Cabinet System**

The DLP's [Democratic Liberal Party] start can hardly be said successful. The three internal factions still remain as heterogeneous as oil and water and are faced with what is called a general crisis, which may be epitomized in the opposition to and struggle against such negative factors as the setback of reform, the show of force, and the anachronistic power struggle. In a word, the DLP's professed goal for a stable and aspiring government is viewed, in reality, as the fuse which has triggered confusion. The question facing the DLP is not where it is headed, but where it can go.

The DLP shoulders the triple burden of establishing its intraparty order, restoring public trust, and saving the difficult situation. In particular, the power struggle is buried for now, but there is no knowing when its fuse will be rekindled, and in what form. For this reason, there are general doubts about whether or not the DLP will be able to sail smoothly. Nevertheless, within the DLP itself, there are no visible signs that it is aware of the crisis. The party intends to go its "own way" as if it looked away from all these crisis factors, or as if it intended to squash them at one swoop. The "own way" the DLP seeks to go is the path to the revision of the constitution to provide for a cabinet system.

Such a constitutional revision may be a sequel to the tripartite merger, the DLP'S political blueprint for the post-No period. However, this revision may lead not only to a change in the internal order within the DLP but also to the political order in the country as a whole. The revision of the constitution to provide for a cabinet system, therefore, contains the dual possibilities of leading headlong to a turmoil, touched off by its inner detonating force, and to a second round of political restructuring. This is to say that there is the possibility that the constitutional revision will be accompanied by the kind of political turmoil and change we experienced in the 1987 political crisis over the constitutional revision issue.

Despite all this, the DLP is approaching the constitutional revision issue very lightly as if it were not concerned about crisis factors. It is not clear whether the DLP has prearranged preventive devices against a turmoil or it is taking a complacent approach on the assumption that there is not much of a crisis. No matter what the DLP's calculation may be, the constitutional revision in question is bound to be accompanied by turmoil. Is the DLP going to run the risk of touching off a turmoil over the constitutional revision issue? What kind of opposition will the DLP encounter? Will the DLP be able to reach the goal of revising the constitution by overcoming the turmoil? All these are realistic concerns and questions.

The DLP has shot up a trial balloon on the constitutional revision issue leaving aside those questions. The DLP held its convention 100 days after the merger, and no sooner had the convention ended than it began to move toward achieving the cabinet form of government. It was a much faster move than generally expected. According to DLP sources, the party planned to introduce a constitutional revision bill in the regular session of the National Assembly in the fall if things went well, after completing the groundwork within the party, and see to it that the bill would pass the National Assembly in the first half of next year after the lapse of the necessary time for the parliamentary debate and the shaping of public opinion in favor of the bill.

As a matter of fact, the promotion of a constitutional revision providing for a cabinet system was something that was anticipated from the beginning. At the convention, the wording "realize parliamentary democracy in which the National Assembly and the Cabinet shoulder responsibilities together" was written into the party platform, and this action may be interpreted as signifying that the party has paved the way for the constitutional revision with the approval of the party ranks.

It is necessary to go through several stages before a constitutional revision providing for the cabinet system—stages such as achieving an intraparty consensus, negotiating with the opposition parties, overcoming the expected joint struggle by the dissident camp, and holding a referendum.

Platform, Product of Compromise Among Factions

Achieving an intraparty consensus within the DLP is not an easy task because the constitutional revision for the cabinet system is part of a political blueprint for the post-No Tae-u era. When the ruling party and two opposition parties merged to form the DLP, the three parties reportedly discussed a political blueprint for the post-No period. The blueprint for the future involves the power structure of the three leaders representing the three wings of the DLP. According to a settled view, an understanding was reached in the course of merger negotiations that during President No's tenure, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil back up the president, and thereafter all will cooperate in having Kim Yong-sam lead the DLP.

In the course of negotiation, discussions were made of the issue of revising the constitution to introduce the cabinet system. Reportedly, there was a complete accord between President No and Kim Chong-pil on the cabinet system, but there was no clear agreement between President No and Kim Yong-sam. Judging from this, it is surmised that President No had separate talks with Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil regarding the blueprint for the power structure for 1993, and that during the talks among the three, an understanding was reached on the succession of leadership from President No to Kim Yong-sam to Kim Chong-pil.

However, the two events which erupted after the merger, namely, the Pak Chol-on tempest and the stir caused by the exposure of the alleged secret agreement on who would be the next to succeed the presidential and party powers, undermined the faith which was essential in guaranteeing the implementation of the tacit agreement or understanding between the three. There are no signs that President No and senior council member Kim Yong-sam, subsequently discussed ways to revive such faith.

For intraparty peace and smooth political sailing of the DLP, an agreement on a political design for the post-No period is the most crucial requirement. Particularly for the partywide promotion of a constitutional revision for the cabinet system, such agreement is practically an absolute necessity. What is needed is not merely an agreement but some devices to guarantee its implementation. By the way, only mutual trust can guarantee the implementation of a political agreement. But there is no indication that such devices have been worked out within the DLP as of now.

Accordingly, it may be said that neither the tenet which opened the path to the cabinet system nor the trial balloon for the cabinet system raised subsequently does not reflect an intraparty consensus. As a matter of fact, this tenet is a product of compromise on leadership. Prior to the party convention, when the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] wing proposed a 2-year term for the party presidency, the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] and NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party] wings first opposed the proposal on the grounds that it might aggravate the phenomenon of the lame duck presidency which is apt to appear in the latter stage of the presidential term, but approved it in the end. In return for this approval, the RDP wing agreed to the DJP wing-proposed amendment to the DLP platform which paved the way for the cabinet system.

Concerning the term for the party presidency as decided by the convention, State Minister Kim Yun-hwan said that the 2-year term reflects the democratic principle that even the party president needs to reaffirm the confidence of the party ranks every two years, and in particular, it reflects the principle that the candidate for the next presidency should be chosen about a year before the expiration of President No's term. In other words, this is to say that an understanding was reached among the three wings of the DLP that the party will hold a convention after the 1992 general election to name the next party president and nominate the new party president as its candidate for the presidency or the prime ministership.

The DLP platform is a signal for a constitutional revision for the cabinet system. But this does not in itself mean that there is a complete intraparty agreement. The DJP and NDRP wings are of the opinion that the party has taken the first step toward the constitutional revision for the cabinet system, whereas the RDP wing holds the qualified view that it only signifies an enhanced power of the parliament and it should not be stretched to mean anything more.

According to reports, the negotiations on the leadership structure and the party platform were conducted on the evening of 5 May between party Secretary General Pak Chun-pyong, presidential General Secretary No Chae-pong, and Choe Yun-chang, senior presidential secretary for political affairs from the DJP wing, and Floor Leader Kim Tong-yong from the RDP wing. During the negotiations, the DJP wing proposed that a clear provision calling for a constitutional revision for the cabinet system be written into the platform, but the RDP wing opposed on the grounds that public opinion was not yet ready and that such revision was premature. From this process, it may be deduced that the RDP wing accepted the cabinet system in principle, but left room for voicing dissenting views when it came to the question of timing, citing the given political condition, public opinion, and so forth.

In the final analysis, the argument about the cabinet system did not go beyond opening the path to the final destination of introducing that system. As if there were no time to wait for the climate to mature, the DJP and NDRP wings launched the groundwork for the revision of the constitution. While the groundwork was in progress, rumors were in circulation that there was a more extensive agreement among the party hierarchy which went beyond what was discussed at the working level.

Particularly, it deserves attention that a supreme member, one of the highest leaders of the party, is intimating the existence of a more extensive agreement. Immediately following the party convention, Kim Chong-pil, a supreme council member, commenting on the move to push for a constitutional revision for the cabinet system, said that "this development indicates that things are moving as I predicted." With the expression "what is visible on the surface is the tip of an iceberg," he implied that the party hierarchy had reached an extensive agreement, including that on the idea about the power structure incident to the cabinet system. Kim Chong-pil's statement can be interpreted as signifying that after the intraparty tempest in the DLP immediately following the merger, there was a discussion among the top party leaders. Another source in the DJP wing spoke more straightforwardly.

This source said: "As far as I know, while working on the revision of the party platform in early May, the three component forces of the DLP were agreed that the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system be completed in a year, and the written note to that effect was executed. I hear that as a matter of fact, Kim Yong-sam, senior member of the Supreme Council, approved the agreement."

Kim Chong-pil's claim that the revision of the party platform was the tip of an iceberg is based on this alleged agreement, as apparent from the fact that he went one step further and said that it was agreed that the revision of the constitution be completed by the first half of the coming year, followed by a general election in the second half. However, the claim about the tripartite agreement on revising the constitution to introduce the cabinet system lacks credence. While speaking of the agreement in one breath, in another breath the aforementioned DLP source said: If the RDP wing opposes the proposed revision of the constitution, a splitting of the party may be unavoidable. This does not square with the alleged agreement.

In fact, judging from the atmosphere that has prevailed since the April tremor in the DLP, it seems improbable that the party leadership was able to reach an agreement before the party convention on introducing the constitution. The April tremor which the DLP went through is not something that can be easily patched up. The tremor, commonly known as the Pak Chol-on tremor, was not a trouble between Kim Yong-sam and Pak Chol-on. The crux of the matter is the question raised during the meeting which was held at the presidential mansion among the four leaders, namely, President No, Kim Yong-sam, Kim Chong-pil, and Pak Tae-chun, to resolve the aftermath of the Pak Chol-on tremor. After lunch, Kim Yong-sam with no one else but President No reportedly walked into the study, where he produced for the president documentary proof of secret operations against him.

Kim Yong-sam said to the president: "Doesn't this mean that somebody is out to kill me after inviting me into the party? I would rather get flogged to death by citizens than die at the hands of your group... If I decide to depart this life with my coffin filled with the record of my achievements accumulated in the past 30 years by giving up everything for the sake of the struggle for democracy, then what is there which I won't be able to do?..."

Post-No Issue, Bone of Intraparty Contention

On that day Kim Yong-sam showed his determination to bolt the party and fight single-handedly if need be. Coming out of the study, he returned to the room to resume the four-man discussion. Shortly afterward, when Kim Yong-sam stood up in the middle of the discussion to leave, Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun reportedly stopped him, chiding Kim Yong-sam for his behavior by attributing it to the past habit of the opposition party and urging him to think of national interests from a broad point of view.

Kim Yong-sam in return reminded them of the fact that after then President Pak was assassinated on 26 October, he visited the room where his coffin was laid, and attended his state funeral, and that when at an Anguktong meeting which took place shortly afterward between him and Yun Po-son, Kim Tae-chung, and Yang Il-tong, he dissuaded them from going along with the suggestion that a campaign be waged to save the life of Kim Chae-kyu, the assassin, on the ground that such campaign is untenable. He then shot back by saying, "I am no less concerned about national interests than you are."

In the final analysis, what was at the core of the Pak Chol-on tremor was the question of the political blueprint for the post-No period and the squabble between the DJP and RDP wings over the issue of revising the constitution for the cabinet system. At any rate, all they did on that occasion in the presidential mansion was confirm the deep-rooted distrust in each other. The only agreement reached among the four on that day was that they would bury what was brought to the fore for now.

Since then, there have been no face-to-face talks between President No and Kim Yong-sam, senior member of the supreme council. When the four leaders met in the presidential mansion in early May, all they did was confirm and approve what was discussed about the leadership structure and other questions at the working level. Accordingly, it may be more accurate to assume that the more extensive agreement hinted at by Kim Chong-pil, member of the supreme council, with the words "the tip of an iceberg" when he commented on the signal for the move toward the revision of the constitution may have been an agreement between President No and Kim Chong-pil or a three-way agreement among No, Kim Chong-pil, and Pak Tae-chun.

Needless to say, the current in the DLP is moving as agreed upon at the time of the merger. As far as the leadership structure worked out at the party convention is concerned, Kim Yong-sam is placed closest to the post of the next party presidency as the senior member of the supreme council. But the ranking in the party does not necessarily coincide with the order of succession of party power, particularly in the case of the DLP.

At present, the DLP is divided into two groupings, the DJP and NDRP wings on one side and the RDP wing on the other. The party is clearly divided into two in party operations over policy lines such as the reform policy.

Kim Yong-sam and the RDP wing is a minority within the DLP, and nothing other than trust can ensure power for a minority. But there is no indication that mutual trust has been revived. After all, nothing but political strength can guarantee the implementation of an agreement.

For this reason, as far as the power structure is concerned, the position of the RDP wing differs depending on whether the presidential system is maintained or the cabinet system is adopted. Under the presidential system, the first prerequisite for the presidential candidacy is the possibility of winning the election. In this respect, Kim Yong-sam and the RDP wing have a relative advantage. In a sense, the RDP may have calculated that this advantage would guarantee agreement to the merger process.

Climate in RDP Wing Negative to Constitutional Revision

On the contrary, under the cabinet system, assemblymen elect the prime minister. This is to say that the candidate for the prime ministership needs the support of assemblymen more than that of the public. Needless to say, generally and normally, the support of the public and that of assemblymen should coincide. However, under the current situation in our country, particularly in the DLP, there is no guarantee for this normal coincidence. Only one who enjoys absolute public support unrivaled by any other in the party can assuredly link his public support to parliamentary support.

The DLP has no alternative but to maintain the structure of three wings for now and into the near future. The 1992 National Assembly election will be held under No Tae-u, the party president. The party convention will take place after the general election. Accordingly, Kim Yong-sam and the RDP wing will have no choice but to remain in the minority. Regardless of whatever political accord there is, the DJP wing will hold the key. Under the cabinet system, it would be much easier for the DJP wing to overturn the political accord. For this reason, the RDP wing is not in a position to agree to the cabinet system. The RDP wing claims that "the content of the platform merely represents the policy of strengthening the authority of the parliament and is not a signal for the cabinet system," and this claim is proof of such inner thinking on the part of the RDP wing.

Inasmuch as the DJP and NDRP wings agreed to push for the introduction of the cabinet system, discussions about the issue of the cabinet system at all levels of the DLP will be unavoidable, and the RDP wing will have difficulties in coping with this development. Skeptical about the future course of the DLP, a member of the RDP wing had said this before the constitutional issue cropped up:

"The conservative color displayed by the DJP wing after the tripartite merger may have been intentional. At any rate, this posture of the DJP wing has dealt irreparable damage to the justification of the merger on the part of the RDP. The party belatedly embarked on reform, but this was not due to a shift in the direction on the part of the DJP wing but to the public pressures.

In brief, the DLP standing in the constituencies is deteriorating on the whole, and particularly, the position of the RDP wing is worse. The only way for the RDP wing to stem this downhill slide is to make the promise that it will play the leading role in pushing for the second round of reforms under a Kim Yong-sam administration. However, those belonging to the RDP wing say with one voice that when the cabinet system is introduced, this promise is likely to lose its power of persuasion. Some of them even say that "before being abandoned by the constituents, the RDP wing may be rejected by the DJP and NRDP wings."

The DJP and NRDP wings may have had no intention from the beginning to work out a blueprint for the future with the RDP wing. A senior party official said that they seem to have attained their objective by drawing the RDP into the merger and having it take down its shingle. As is clear from all this, the atmosphere in the RDP wing is against the cabinet system.

During his first press conference following the convention, Kim Yong-sam, senior member of the supreme council, pointed out that once he had said that "I am against neither the presidential system nor the cabinet system." He added, however, that at this point of time, it is undesirable to discuss the cabinet system as an issue. He then stated that "the problem of power structure is a very delicate issue. I want you to recall what kind of impact the changes in the power structure have had in the 40-year political history." There is nothing good about the history of constitutional revisions. Therefore, it may be said that this statement of Kim Yong-sam reflects his strong opposition to the proposed constitutional revision.

Public opinion is the only means by which the RDP wing can stalwartly push forward with its determination against the cabinet system. If the opposition parties reject the cabinet system and public opinion is also negative, it is almost certain or it seems that the RDP wing will be able to checkmate the move toward the revision of the constitution with the backing of such public opinion. However, if its opposition to the cabinet system is pushed aside as a minority opinion, there is the possibility that some in the RDP wing will bolt the DLP, irrespective of the attitude of Kim Yong-sam, senior member of the supreme council.

DJP's Signal to PPD

It then follows that if the DJP and NDRP wings seek to push for the cabinet system there is no choice but to begin by winning over public opinion. This is to say that a practical strategy for pushing for the cabinet system is to create the kind of climate which leaves no choice for the RDP wing but to go along with the cabinet system. A party official belonging to the DJP wing expressed the optimistic view that when public opinion is in favor of the cabinet system, the RDP wing will naturally come to follow the party view. State Minister Kim Yun-hwan said, "the adoption of the platform in favor of the cabinet system marks the point of departure for the revision of the constitution. But whether the constitution is revised or not will depend on whether or not sufficient public support and a sufficient number of votes in the National Assembly will be secured." This statement reflects the perception of the DJP wing which anticipates the RDP wing's opposition, and even the possibility of its breaking away.

Pak Tae-chun, a supreme council member, has taken upon himself the spearhead role in pushing the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system. That he stands on the fore front signifies that other key party members also have already launched or will launch into the work of revising the constitution. The first target of negotiation singled out by the DJP wing for the revision of the constitution is the PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy]. It seems that the DLP is calculating that it can narrow differences with the PPD in negotiations for the revision of the constitution. Supreme council member Pak stated that at a certain stage, the DLP will begin discussing the issue of revising the constitution to introduce the cabinet system with the opposition parties, such as the PPD and the Democratic Party. But there is some evidence indicating that an advance probe or a behind-the-scenes negotiation has already begun.

It was not today or yesterday that the DJP wing started sending signals to the PPD. The latest signal was the Pak Chol-on statement made soon after the three-party merger. In this statement, he said: "There can be no secret agreement regarding power. Even if there were one, how could that agreement be honored? The status of supreme council member Kim Yong-sam depends on the ability he will demonstrate. No vested interest can be recognized."

Pak Chol-on made this statement immediately after the merger, at a time when relations among the three wings were good. By that time, press speculation on the political blueprint for 1993 and thereafter passed the peak and quieted down. But at that time of all times, Pak on his own accord made that statement concerning the top echelon which was particularly unfitting for him as minister of state to make. The statement was a bolt from the blue, and it was hard to understand why he made such a statement which was offensive to the Kim Yong-sam group. At any rate the Kim Yong-sam group let the episode slip by without showing any reaction, despite its inner feelings, because in its judgment it was not the type of statement which was fit for comment.

But Pak Chol-son's attack did not stop at that. On 4 March when the controversy arose over the nature of his trip to Moscow as to whether he is accompanying Kim Yong-sam in his own capacity or as a member of suite, Pak Chol-on said: "I will actively support whoever in the DLP is capable of winning public trust. If there is no one like that in the party, I will be ready even to look for one outside the party and will support him when I find him." This statement amounted to a more direct attack on the Kim Yong-sam group and hinted at a second round of political reorganization.

He became more estranged from Kim Yong-sam during their Moscow visit, and after their return, their relations ended up in a frontal confrontation. But this might have been a calculated move on the part of Pak Chol-on. In the middle of this squabble, he went out of his way to declare that if the DJP had merged with the PPD, things would have been much easier and there would have been no trouble like this. At any rate, the series of tempests like this in which the leadership of the DJP wing held the Kim Yong-sam group at arm's length might have been intended as a gesture of its willingness to approach the PPD.

It is noteworthy that while discussing the constitutional revision issue, supreme council member Pak Tae-chun emphasized the need to eliminate regionalism more than anything else. He stated that the cabinet system is desirable in eliminating regionalism, which has emerged as a big issue in the past two or three years, and remove regional imbalances. This statement, no matter how one views it, was meant as a signal to the PPD. This is because to say that the cabinet system plays a salutary role in resolving regionalism is to say that under the cabinet system the DLP and the PPD can cooperate with each other, and because such cooperation means a DLP-PPD coalition government.

In fact, in the pre-merger days the group of proponents of the cabinet system within the DJP said that the PPD would be the most appropriate partner with whom to push for the cabinet system. If the goal of the DJP wing within the DLP in seeking political restructuring is the cabinet system, the merger with the Kim Yong-sam-led RDP may in a sense be intended as an intermediate stage, and rather some kind of accommodation with the PPD may be sought as the concluding stage of political restructuring.

Origin of Idea About Cabinet System

The idea of the DLP, more accurately, of its DJP wing, about the cabinet system has its origin in the proposal for the cabinet system advanced by the Chon Tu-hwan regime during the political controversy over the constitutional revision issue in 1987. In those days the Chon Tu-hwan regime, cornered by the opposition struggle for a constitutional revision for a direct presidential election system, came out with a proposal for a constitutional revision to provide for the cabinet system as an alternative. However, in reality, this proposal was the first objective in the political blueprint for perpetuating the DJP rule and for the post-Chong Tu-hwan period.

As the reasons for proposing the revision of the constitution, the Chon Tu-hwan regime enumerated the following: elimination of regionalism; avoidance of the confusion and the extreme confrontation between the ruling and opposition parties that might result from the presidential election; and dispersal of powers. Of these reasons, the trump card used in the process of negotiation was dispersal of powers. This was their line of reasoning: a presidential election means either a complete victory or a complete defeat and may cause a black-and-white confrontation between the ruling and opposition parties; particularly under the existing circumstances, there are ample misgivings about possible political retaliation, and the election campaign may assume the features of a life or death struggle.

Accordingly, anything can happen in the election race under the direct presidential election system. On the other hand, under the cabinet system, various political parties and groupings can participate in governance and exercise powers through a coalition or some other means, to the extent of the public support they have won in the election. In addition, the cabinet system makes a smooth changeover of powers possible. Those are the reasons the Chon regime gave for advocating the cabinet system. But the true purpose of the cabinet system as sought by the Chong Tun-hwan regime was generally recognized as a means for achieving the goal of keeping the DJP in power until at least the year 2000. In those days rumors circulated that the Chon Tun-hwan regime had a program drawn up already under the grand plan to keep the DJP in power until the year 2000 by hook or by crook.

The push for the cabinet system was also understood as a means of not only keeping the DJP in power for a long term but also enabling Chon Tu-hwan to exercise political influence after his retirement. In those days President Chon Tu-hwan could not exceed the constitutional limit of one term only. For this reason, it was generally believed that he was seeking these goals: revising the constitution for the introduction of cabinet system; holding the National Assembly election before the expiration of his term to lay the groundwork for controlling the parliament; and then maintaining his political influence as the nominator of the prime minister by remaining as party president.

At that time the DJP seemed to have no chance of staying in power under a direct presidential election system. The opposition parties made a firm pledge to field a single opposition candidate. It was common knowledge—which the Chon Tu-hwan regime itself acknowledged—that if the opposition came out with a single candidate, the DJP would have no candidate to match the opposition candidate.

The Chon Tu-hwan regime, doggedly opposing the direct presidential election system, demanded that the opposition either accept the cabinet system or keep in force the constitutional provision providing for the indirect presidential election system. But the opposition refused to negotiate any alternative to the direct election system. The opposition thought that only the indirect presidential election would assure them sure victory. In those days, Kim Yong-sam was confident of the revision of the constitution for the direct presidential system, the fielding of a single opposition candidate, and opposition victory. [passage omitted]

Two Cards in Push for Constitutional Revision

The proposal of the DJP wing within the DLP for the cabinet system may be said an exact replica of the proposal made by the Chon Tu-hwan regime rather than an extension of this old proposal. First, the line of reasoning in favor of the cabinet system is the same. As was the case with the old proposal, the new proposal is a program for keeping the DJP wing in power. While accepting the revision of the constitution for the direct presidential election system in his 29 June 1987 proclamation, President No stated that he was making this acceptance not because he changed his view regarding the cabinet system. As soon as the No administration was installed, the DJP began to move for the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system. All this indicates that the proposal for the cabinet system made by the DJP wing is the same old proposal which the Chon Tu-hwan regime put away in the box after trying to push for a while.

The cabinet system being advocated by the DJP wing and the cabinet system as once advocated by the Chon Tu-hwan regime differ only in their methods of promotion and in that the political climate is more favorable now than before. The No regime's DJP is pushing for the cabinet system by linking it to political restructuring. In 1987 Chon Tu-hwan's DJP merely presented the possibility that an adoption of the cabinet system would leave no choice but to form a coalition government by two or more parties, depending on the election results.

On the contrary, the push for the cabinet system by the No regime's DJP was linked to political restructuring because it presumed that the ruling and opposition parties would enter into advance negotiations to jointly promote the cabinet system and form a coalition government following the adoption of the cabinet system. In addition, compared with the 1987, the climate was more favorable now for the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system, considering the fact that under the four-party system, no single party was sure of victory in the presidential election.

With these two favorable cards, the DJP approached the issue of the cabinet system. Of these two cards, the three-party merger had the effect of forestalling advance negotiations for a coalition government. However, the uneasy cohabitation of the DJP and RDP wings in the DLP hardly warrants the view that the merger has completely shut out the door to advance negotiations for a coalition government. In a sense the way the DJP wing in the DLP is approaching the cabinet system is not different from the approach made in the early days of the Sixth Republic, that is, before the three-party merger. And this may be one of the cards which would enable the DJP wing to negotiate with the PPD.

The opposition camp is vehemently against the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system. Since the announcement of the three-party merger, the opposition camp has been waging an anti-DLP drive. The harsh statements issued by the PPD and the Democratic Party on the day the DLP opened its convention represented an unprecedentedly strong rejection response. In addition, dissident groups, including students, launched a joint struggle to crush the DLP, hitting the streets in a dogged resistance.

The opposition parties and dissident groups view the push for the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system as a hidden intention to perpetuate the DLP's monopoly of power. Inasmuch as this view has been established as a public consensus to a considerable degree, the DLP's push for the cabinet system is expected to meet stiff resistance, with the possibility that it may develop into chaos in the political, social, and economic fields.

Kim Tae-chung's View of Cabinet System

DLP officials, though aware of this trend, brought the issue of the cabinet system into the open in the middle of the so-called general crisis. The DLP officially brought out the issue of revising the constitution despite the very difficult circumstances, probably because it saw some possibilities in its own way. It seems that the party does not simply rely on the immense clout of the so-called giant ruling party, the clout such as the sufficient number of parliamentary votes it secured through the three-party merger that would be needed to pass a constitutional revision bill. Apparently, the DLP is counting on the possibility of negotiation with the opposition, particularly, the PPD. Irrespective of the intention of the PPD, the DLP is counting on the possibility of negotiation, and there are signs that this is not mere wishful thinking or an optimistic expectation.

Officially, the PPD was still against a revision of the constitution for the cabinet system. In January, when the three-party merger took place, PPD President Kim Tae-chung foresaw a revision of the constitution for the cabinet system to provide for a dual executive system [iwon chipchongje], as a sequel to the merger.

He said: "The political restructuring through the three-party merger was aimed at ensuring President No a long-term stay in power. If not, how did he dare to carry out political restructuring by reneging on his public pledge not to arbitrarily reorganize the political structure? Following the reorganization of the political structure things have been rapidly reverting to the times of Yusin and the Fifth Republic in four fields—political, economic, social, and military. The ultimate goal of this political restructuring was to revise the constitution for the cabinet system, and through this system, to enable President No to stay in power taking charge of military, diplomatic, security, and unification affairs single-handedly.

There is another side to the PPD attitude toward the constitutional revision issue which may be characterized as flexible or not so strongly negative. Agreeing to postpone an interim evaluation of the record of the No administration in his talks with President No in the spring of 1989, PPD President Kim Tae-chung negotiated to work out a political blueprint for long-range cooperation between the DJP and the PPD. The political blueprint reportedly drawn up on that occasion charted this course: the joint fielding of candidates for local elections; the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system; a DJP-PPD coalition government.

The existence of this political blueprint has not been confirmed, but one could see the political necessity for and interests in such cooperation on both sides. It was the calculation of the DJP that through cooperation with the PPD, it would be able to expand its representation in the Yongnam area by defeating Kim Yong-sam's RDP, its archrival in the Yongnam area, and capture a position favorable to maintain its rule. President Kim Tae-chung and his PPD had a remote chance of seizing power through a presidential election due to its narrow regional power base. Therefore, it was reasonable to assume that the best approach to coming into power with its narrow regional power base would be to participate in a coalition government through the cabinet system.

At about that time, the DJP advocated the cabinet system stressing the need for it. Pak Chun-kyu, then DJP Chairman, said that PPD President Kim Tae-chung would take a positive view of the cabinet system. Precisely as predicted by Pak Chun-kyu, PPD President Kim Tae-chung stated that if the public supported the cabinet system, he might consider it positively. All this indicated that the talk about the honeymoon between the DJP and the PPD was not a mere rumor.

However, interest in this political blueprint faded out due to the So Kyong-won case which broke out in the middle of the security issues-dominated political situation. But this is not to say that this political scheme was taken back to the drawing board. This was borne out by the fact that during his talks with PPD President Kim Tae-chung in the presidential mansion which took place in early January prior to the three-party merger, President No also sounded out Kim Tae-chung on the possibility of a DJP-PPD merger.

DJP-PPD Coalition Cannot Be Ruled Out

The three-party merger shook the foundation of the past negotiations between the DJP and the PPD, but it is too early to completely rule out the possibility of a DJP-PPD coalition as a thing of the past. The distance between the DJP and RDP wings has not been narrowed despite the merger. It is particularly worthy of note that the clash between these two wings was touched off by Pak Chol-on's call for a so-called second round of political restructuring.

The PPD may have some ulterior intention in pressing for the dissolution of the National Assembly and an early general election. The PPD defined the three-party merger as a change in the parliamentary order which called for the dissolution of the National Assembly and the holding of a general election. However, the PPD may lose some of its present National Assembly seats in a new general election, not to mention the uncertain possibility of beating the DLP. This being the situation, it seems that the PPD is demanding a general election just as a matter of moral obligation.

Nevertheless the PPD launched a 10-million signature campaign demanding a general election, with the 1 April Puchon rally as the starting point. This coincided with the discussion in the Pak Chol-on camp of the question of advancing the schedule for the next general election. His professed reason was that for the three-party merger to strike its roots, it would be necessary to hold a general election. But, in reality, his idea on a general election is linked to the move for the cabinet system. Accordingly, the PPD campaign for an early general election can play the role of a passage to the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system and then to an early general election, depending on the determination of the Pak Chol-on camp.

When the DLP adopted a platform providing for the cabinet system, the PPD reaction was much more mild than expected. True, PPD Spokesman Kim Tae-sik declared that with the adoption of a platform in favor of the cabinet system, the DLP laid bare its intention to stay in power for a long time. But his criticism was directed less at the provision itself for a revision of the constitution for the cabinet system than at the process for attaining it. This was borne out by his statement that the substance of a reorganization of the power structure requires the consent of the majority of the people, and it is also necessary that discussions on this matter follow an open and democratic process.

A few days afterward, PPD President Kim Tae-chung said as follows at a party caucus: "To be sure, both the presidential and cabinet systems are democratic institutions. I myself have experience of working as a spokesman under the cabinet system. We have no choice but to accept it if the majority of the people support it. But the 13th National Assembly is not qualified to adopt the cabinet system through a constitutional revision. The present National Assembly, a product of the 29 June proclamation which chose the presidential system, is obligated to safeguard the presidential system. It is still premature to introduce the cabinet system particularly under the circumstances in which the military rule has continued for the past 30 years. In my view, it is difficult to introduce the cabinet system before a civilian president, not a soldier-turned politician, has established the precedent of civilian control of the military."

This statement clearly comes into conflict with the proposed revision of the constitution. But there are two points worthy of attention in this statement. The first point is that if the majority of the people support it, there is no choice but to accept it. This point, along with the spokesman's statement demanding open discussions, could mean that the PPD is inclined to discuss the constitutional revision issue and accept the revision if it is passed by a proper procedure.

The other point, which is more important, is the demand that the precedent of a civilian president controlling the military be established. Depending on how one interprets it, this may be taken as a realistic judgment of the difficulty a civilian government has in controlling the military, and it may call forth the proposal for adopting a (dual executive system) in case the cabinet system is introduced and for letting a president with a military background control the military for the time being as a safety device for removing that disturbing factor.

PPD Proposal for Whole-Nation Cabinet Worth Attention

The third point of the PPD moves worthy of attention is its call for a whole-nation cabinet. On the day when President No issued a statement on the current situation which the government and the ruling party defined as a crisis, the PPD also issued a proclamation on the current situation calling for the formation of a cabinet supported by the whole nation as a means of pulling through the difficult situation. In its proposal the PPD stressed that in order to recover the abilities and trust of the administration, a whole-nation cabinet should be formed by bringing together all democratic and conscientious leaders from various groupings and strata, including political figures. The proposal also called for a general election under this new whole-nation cabinet to recompose the National Assembly in accordance with the will of the people, and according to the election results, to form a new cabinet having legitimacy and qualifications for representing the people. This proposal for a whole-nation cabinet can be interpreted as a signal that it is possible to revise the constitution for the introduction of the cabinet by joining hands with the DJP wing.

First of all, only a short time before, the PPD lashed out at the DLP convention stating that it would watch out and crush the DLP's antidemocratic, antinational, and anti-historical intrigues. Therefore, the PPD proposal for a whole-nation cabinet is grossly inconsistent with the PPD's supposed out-and-out distrust in the DLP. The more striking point in this proposal is the demand that the schedule for the next national assembly election be moved up and a new cabinet having legitimacy and qualifications for representing the people be formed in accordance with the election results.

The present constitution provides for the presidential form of government, with the cabinet operating as an entity to assist him. Accordingly, under the present constitution, even when there is a change in the distribution of assembly seats among various parties as a result of an election, there is no reason or obligation to reflect the new seat distribution in the formation of a cabinet. Only under the cabinet system, the distribution of seats is reflected in the formation of a cabinet.

Therefore, the PPD proposal for a whole-nation cabinet may be interpreted as signifying this process: the formation of a whole-nation cabinet; the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system; a new general election; the formation of a cabinet under the cabinet system. This process nearly coincides with the schedule conceived by the DJP wing of the DLP, namely, presenting a proposal for the cabinet system this fall, passing the constitutional revision bill at some time in the first half of the coming year if things go well, and immediately proceeding to hold a general election.

At any rate, we notice in these proposals some points that seem to indicate that there is some connection between the PPD and the DLP's DJP wing with regard to the issue of the revising the constitution to introduce the cabinet system. After the PPD statement that any change in the power structure should be accomplished through open discussions, Pak Tae-chun, DLP supreme committee member, stated that his party will have seminars and pubic hearings on this issue. On the other hand, when the DJP wing gave the elimination of regionalism as a reason for pushing for the cabinet system, the PPD made the signal for a whole-nation cabinet.

Last spring the then DJP and the PPD were in agreement on the idea of collaborating to revise the constitution for the cabinet system and establish a coalition government. For the DJP, the PPD was the most appropriate, and in a sense, the only eligible partner in pushing the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system smoothly and continuing to stay in power on a stable basis for the next period.

The same was the case with the PPD. While going through the two elections, its regional tendency aggravated. For the past two years, the position of its president, Kim Tae-chung, also deteriorated. The PPD could not yet find ways to overcome these disadvantages. Under these circumstances, it was almost impossible for President Kim Tae-chung to come into power.

YS Drawn In To Integrate Yongnam Forces

Therefore, the most feasible way for Kim Tae-chung's PPD to participate in the next government by maintaining its status as the first opposition party without its current weakness was to realize the cabinet system and form a coalition government in collaboration with the DJP. This was exactly the political blueprint in last spring when the interim appraisal of the No administration's performance record was postponed. If so, the question remains: Why did the DJP and the PPD not choose this path? The internal situation of the DJP may provide an answer.

Under the four-party system the DJP could have adopted the cabinet system in collaboration with the PPD and the NDRP. Last spring, following the postponement of the interim appraisal, the RDP said that now it was not one No and three Kims but three Nos and one Kim. As indicated by the RDP complaint, the configuration of the political terrain in those days was such that the DJP, the PPD, and the NDRP flocked together on one side and the RDP stood alone on the other side. The reason the DJP did not move toward the cabinet system according to this layout was that it was more concerned about what would come after the adoption of the cabinet system.

Suppose the three parties jointly pushed for the cabinet system, the RDP would stand opposed to it. Of course, the constitution would have been revised over the RDP's opposition. However, the problem was the national election that would follow. In this election, it was not certain that the DJP would be able to maintain its position as the first party among the four. First, the DJP and the RDP shared the Yongnam region as their power bases. In this election, the RDP would become the only opposition party because it alone opposed the constitutional revision bill providing for the cabinet system which was pushed by three other parties.

On the contrary, the DJP would have the weakness as the main character in the push for the cabinet system, and particularly, the weakness of collaborating with the PPD—against which people in the Yongnam area have a rejection syndrome—and seeking to form a coalition government with it. This would create the possibility that the majority of people in Yongnam would flock to the side of Kim Yong-sam's (YS's) PPD. On top of that, the RDP might enlist the support of the non-Honam forces against the PPD.

If that happened, it would be highly possible that the DJP would be relegated to the status of being a third-ranking party although it managed to revise the constitution for the cabinet system. So, in the end, the DJP might have judged that in order to continue to maintain its position as the first party even under the cabinet system, it should first proceed with work to win over the whole of the Yongnam area. According to this line of reasoning, it may be said that the purpose of the three-party merger was the integration of Yongnam forces, the first gateway to the cabinet system.

Pushing for the cabinet system and drawing up plans for the formation of the government under the cabinet system will be the next step. Given the present situation surrounding the DJP wing of the DLP, the way of smoothly pushing for the cabinet system lies in enlisting the support of the PPD. If the DLP were to hold two-thirds of the National Assembly seats after the adoption of the cabinet system as it does now, there would be no need for joining hands with the PPD. However, under the circumstances, the DJP wing would be able to enlist the support of the PPD only when there is a definite prospect and assurance for the formation of a DLP-PPD coalition cabinet.

For the DJP, it would be most desirable to poll a majority or near majority vote in the new general election under the cabinet system, trailed by the PPD and the third party in the distribution of National Assembly seats. A second round of political restructuring may be sought as another change designed to achieve such a lineup in the seat distribution. At any rate, a DLP source said that in pushing for the cabinet system, the first gate the DLP has to go through will be entering into negotiations with PPD President Kim Tae-chun, not with Kim Yong-sam, senior supreme council member of the DLP, and the RDP wing he leads. This statement may portend various changes.

Obstacles To Push for Cabinet System

Despite all these angles, it is difficult to say that some form of cooperation between the DLP's DJP wing and the PPD is possible, and much more to prognosticate that the prospect for revising the constitution is positive. When the DLP formally undertakes the task of revising the constitution, it will provide a clear goal to the current drive against the DLP, the goal of "crushing the plot to revise the constitution." The struggle by the opposition camp will not stop at being a movement against the revision of the constitution but take the form of struggle to crush the DLP plot to stay in power for a long time. In this we see the possibility that this struggle will develop into a drive aimed at ousting the No administration.

At present the Democratic Party takes a much clearer stand against revising the constitution. Yi Ki-taek, chairman of its inaugural committee, addressing a Taejon rally on 12 May, warned that if the DLP should railroad a constitutional revision bill through the National Assembly, the day the public notice on the referendum is made will mark "the last day of the DLP." This points to the prospect that either the Democratic Party or the dissident camp will come out with a proposal for the formation of an all-opposition joint front to smash the DLP plot to remain in power for a long time. In that event, it is doubtful whether the PPD will be able to stay out of this joint front.

Needless to say, whether the struggle of the opposition against the ruling party will prove effective is an unknown quantity. Probably, the struggle of the dissident camp and students will be violent sometimes and apt to be rough and tough. This may cause them to be alienated from the citizenry. Moreover, chances are high that the violent campaign will give the government an excuse to deal with it from the stand point of law and order, branding the drive as something other than an avenue for expressing pros or cons for the revision of the constitution.

In the drive of the DJP wing of the DLP for the revision of the constitution, the RDP wing after all may be an ambush to check the push for the constitutional revision. Kim Yong-sam's view of the constitutional revision issue epitomizes one aspect of the opposition against the revision. On one occasion, he said that to make the constitutional revision, there should be the support of the majority of the people, that is, when roughly 70 percent are in favor, and that the revision will be difficult if public opinion is divided half and half. He said this before the party convention took place, but he stressed the need for a public consensus in his remarks made on the constitutional amendment issue following the party convention. Judging from Kim's stand, there is only a slim chance of seeing a mood so favorable for the constitutional amendment as to be satisfactory to him.

True, after the party convention, Kim Yong-sam, the senior supreme council member, stressed the need to operate the DLP by transcending factional interests. He even said that if he had been obsessed with power, the three-party merger would have never taken place. But, it is clear that he feels that the realities are far from what he expected when the merger took place. Frankly speaking, the issues which were raised during the April tremor in the DLP were just simply covered up.

Following the tremor the relationships among the DLP leaders were visibly more strained than ever before. President No's relationship with Kim Chong-pil, the senior supreme council member, could not be ascertained. But even supreme council member Pak Tae-chun, not to mention supreme council member Kim Chong-pil, appeared to be bent upon rocking Kim Yong-sam's position. Immediately after his strained 17 April meeting in the presidential mansion, Kim Yong-sam said to one of his close aides, "I feel like quitting politics."

Some time afterward he gave up his local constituency. Although having a local constituency is not an absolutely necessary condition when the cabinet system is introduced, it is generally regarded as an important condition. Yet he gave it up. So, no one knew what more important things he was prepared to give up.

Not only Kim Yong-sam but his RDP wing is in a mood against revising the constitution. If a formal proposal for the revision of the constitution is made under the present atmosphere, most probably it would cause a stir among the DJP wing. Depending on the amplitude of the RDP wing's agitation, it could become a fuse to touch off a second round of political restructuring, and at the same time, it could cause an explosion in the spread of the drive against the revision of the constitution.

Attempt at Constitutional Revision in Historical Perspective

Another issue in the argument about the constitutional revision is the points of dispute. What matters in the DLP's argument about the constitutional revision is not simply the question: Which of the two systems, the presidential or the cabinet system, is better fitted for the realities in our country? The focus of the DLP's argument about the constitutional revision issue is rather the question of how to revamp the power structure designed to ensure a long-term power for the DLP, and how to enable President No to continue to stay in power or to maintain his political influence after his retirement. These points at issue give grounds for branding the DLP's maneuvering for the revision of the constitution as a replica of that of the Chon Tu-hwan regime centering on its 1987 proposal for the cabinet system. In the case of the DLP, attention is focused on President No's ability to push for the revision of the constitution.

In 1987 the Chon Tu-hwan regime withdrew its proposal for revising the constitution to provide for the cabinet system. If in those days President Chon Tu-hwan had believed that the cabinet system was the only strategic move open to him for securing power after his retirement, there is no telling what would have happened. He made the choice of becoming the kingmaker who would choose the president, the man at the helm of power, in return for giving up his plan to hold the power to name or change premiers through the cabinet system.

At first, he issued the so-called 13 April proclamation for the preservation of the constitution in an attempt to choose his successor by the system of choosing the president by indirect vote. If he had chosen the system of selecting the president by an electoral college and kept this college under his influence, no one knows what would have happened. At any rate, he retreated and reverted to the direct election system. Of course, he was convinced that he would succeed in choosing his successor under a direct election system by using an election strategy based on what was known as the theory of sure victory through a four-way competition. He masterminded the DJP's presidential election campaign, which proved successful.

His judgment was that by choosing his successor, he would be able to exercise his influence, but it turned out to be an illusion. The direct election system gave power to the man elected as president; and his attempts to maintain his influence rather caused his influence to be sealed off much faster and more thoroughly than otherwise would have been. Anyway, as far as the outcome is concerned, he ended up being the first president to fail in his attempt to revise the constitution in his own way.

The history of constitutional revisions we have experienced in our short history of constitutional government shows that never before, not even once, did an incumbent president fail in his attempt to revise the constitution to prolong his power. The conditions which allowed such revision of the constitution differ from time to time. In the case of the 1952 revision of the constitution under President Syngman Rhee for electing presidents by direct vote, the proponents of the revision were in the minority in the National Assembly, but a solid majority of the people were in favor of it. By mobilizing overwhelming out-of-the-National-Assembly pressures, he succeeded in pushing through the constitutional revision.

In the case of the 1955 revision of the constitution aimed at "removing the restrictions on the plural terms" for him, the pubic did not much care about it one way or the other, whether to support or oppose it, nor was there an opposition party strong enough to block it.

Originally, the bill for this revision was defeated due to a single invalid vote on the part of the ruling Liberal Party, but later it was declared passed by using the mathematic gimmick of rounding to the nearest whole number in figuring out the number forming a majority. This reversal had ired public opinion and brought the divided opposition parties together, thus having the adverse effect of inspiring the opposition camp to step up its challenge.

In the case of the revision of the constitution to allow President Pak a third term, the ruling party had a two-third majority in the National Assembly, but from the outset President Pak had difficulty lining up enough votes to pass the bill because of the opposition by the Kim Chong-pil faction. In addition, the arbitrary parliamentary maneuvering caused otherwise adverse public opinion to further stiffen against the bill. Yet President Pak carried out the revision. At that time, people had a considerable aversion to the attempt to revise the constitution to provide for a third term for the president, with their experience under President Rhee giving an added impetus to their aversion. But President Pak took it into the consideration that no opposition figure was strong enough to replace him.

Chon Tu-hwan, First President To Fail in Attempt at Constitutional Revision

In contrast to the previous constitutional revisions, which were legal as far as the procedures were concerned, the constitutional revisions that followed flawed in the legality of procedures. Both the 1972 Yusin constitution, and Chon Tu-hwan's 1980 constitution of the Fifth Republic, which was rammed through by the new military leaders, were flawed in procedures in that they were adopted in the atmosphere of terror under martial law and under the ban on the activities of political parties.

The 1987 move to revise the constitution to introduce the cabinet system—which was the first case of failure by the president in revising the constitution—is the same as any move before it in that the revision was aimed at paving the way for the ruling party to continue in power. The only difference is that President Rhee and President Pak revised the constitution in order to remain in power, whereas becoming the prime minster himself was not President Chon's purpose in seeking to revise the constitution for the cabinet system. Needless to say, if he had succeeded in revising the constitution, he would have created for himself the possibility of maintaining the power not only to name the prime minister but also to change him. So, it looked as if he were going to remain in a position not different from the incumbent ruler. Nevertheless, there was the possibility that this would not happen even if he had succeeded in his attempt to revise the constitution.

Nevertheless, this hardly explains why he failed in revising the constitution. In 1987 President Chon did not do his best to push for the revision of the constitution for the cabinet system. If he had pushed forward the cabinet system, most probably he would have succeeded.

But it seems that if he had chosen this course, he would have needed martial law or a similar emergency system as a prerequisite.

In this perspective, it may be said that the revisions of the constitution in the 1970's designed to allow the rulers to stay in power were adopted only under martial law. President Chon did not use that same means in his attempt to revise the constitution, not because he found it difficult to proclaim martial law, but probably because he was more concerned about what would happen after the revision. In fact, if he had bulldozed the constitutional revision for the cabinet system through, or if he had persisted in preserving the indirect presidential election system by sticking to his 13 April proclamation, the man who would become his successor under the revised constitution must have found it an indispensable condition for maintaining his power to arbitrarily hang on to the same force and atmosphere that were used in ramming the constitutional revision through. We would say that was the reason President Chon retreated to the direct election of the new president.

Changes, Storms Generated by Push for Constitutional Revision

The DJP wing has been making a cautious approach to the constitutional revision issue for a long time in view of the political climate which is different from the situation which existed when the previous attempt to revise the constitution failed as described above. It may be said that the approach to the constitutional revision has been in progress these two years, and at least the groundwork directed at the parties in the National Assembly has progressed considerably.

This is a new way of approach to which no previous president ever directed his attention. In pushing the drive to revise the constitution, President No is in a more advantageous position compared with his predecessor, President Chon. For instance, if President Chon had attempted to hold a National Assembly election before the expiration of his term, the election would have had to take place way before the expiration of the term of the National Assembly. On the contrary, President No's term expires 10 months after the expiration of the term of the present National Assembly. If President No succeeds in revising the constitution for the cabinet system, he would form a new National Assembly during his tenure and have enough room for exercising his influence over the National Assembly for about nine months as the president, although a lame duck president. This is an advantage for President No in pushing forward the revision of the constitution.

Nevertheless, the prospect that he would not be the man in power under the cabinet system is a disadvantage in pushing the revision of the constitution. Needless to say, depending on the substance of the revision, this prospect might change. But, it is a disadvantage which offsets his advantages. Anyway the misgivings that President No would exercise his influence after his retirement would rather give the opponents a logical ammunition for branding the revision plan as a plot to stay in power for a long time, and this argument would sound persuasive to the public. Therefore we see the possibility that the movement against the revision of the constitution will not stop at being as such but develop into an all-out struggle against the plot for long-term power, and further against the No administration and the DLP.

His predecessors who pushed the revisions of the constitution to continue in power for a long time maintained their authoritarian systems. But President No bears the mission of democratization on his shoulders. Compared with the past, the people now enjoy a greater latitude of political freedom, and their level of political awareness is much higher. It is too early to draw a conclusion as to whether under this changed situation President No and the DLP will be able to break through the stiff objection. Nevertheless, it may be said that compared with the conditions in which his predecessors succeeded in revising the constitution, the present political climate is much more adverse, and the DLP's political strength is much weaker. In any case, any revision of the constitution for the cabinet system is likely to be accompanied by a change which may be dubbed a second round of political restructuring, and the political situation surrounding the constitutional revision issue is bound to be accompanied by windstorms.

Burma

Myo Nyunt Visits Hospital, Discusses Elections

BK0109112190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon [Rangoon] Military Command, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Soe Win, staff officer grade one, and military officers, met with military personnel from Mingaladon station area and military personnel receiving treatment at the Military Hospital for the Disabled at 0800 this morning at the conference hall of the Military Hospital for the Disabled in Mingaladon. The commander explained the present situation and the attitude the Defense Services personnel should follow.

The meeting was attended by over 1,800 military personnel, including Brigadier General Win Myint, commander of the 11th Light Infantry Division; Colonel Than Tin, acting commander of the Defense Services General Hospital; Lieutenant Colonel Soe Nyunt, acting commander of the Air Force Repair and Maintenance Base; Lieutenant Colonel Maung Maung Thwin, commander of the Mingaladon station area; divisional and unit commanders in the Mingaladon station area; military officers and rank and file; and military personnel receiving treatment at the Military Hospital for the Disabled in Mingaladon.

Speaking at the meeting, the commander said he had come to explain to the comrades who had sacrificed their limbs in fighting with valor and noble spirit in order to safeguard the national sovereignty and to prevent the country from being enslaved again, and to forever uphold the three causes of the Defense Services. He said he would explain the present situation so the comrades would not have anxiety about whether the union would disintegrate into many fragments and whether we would again become slaves after losing the country's independence. He said we would not tolerate any infringement of the country's sovereignty, which has been safeguarded with the comrades' sacrifice. He said he had come to give the explanation because he would like to remind the military personnel in active duty not to tolerate any infringement of our three causes and to continue to safeguard the sovereignty in the spirit of sacrifice and valor like the [disabled] comrades. [passage omitted]

Continuing, he said after measures were taken to prevent a recurrence of disturbances, the multiparty democratic general elections were held in a free and fair manner as pledged. Since the elections, elements bent on creating a recurrence of the disturbances and those who wanted to push the country toward slavery are making demands and attacks and presenting an immediate transfer of power as an issue in the forefront. They carried out instigations to create disturbances in August, but the results fell short of their expectations. We hear they are now working toward creating disturbances during September. The youths are collaborating and instigating with their foreign soothsayers and saying they will start a major movement beginning on 9/9/90 [9 September 1990].

Some political parties met secretly in a rose garden and passed a resolution in which they said they would have to take the second step if the parliament is not convened by September at the latest for a transfer of power. They are making demands and attacks as shown in their Memorandum No. 15/90. While some are predicting the major movement will begin on 15 September, there is an instigation predicting gloom for the country in September. Some unscrupulous politicians are describing the SLORC as one railway engine and the National League for Democracy [NLD] as another engine, with both engines speeding toward each other on the same railway track, while these politicians speculate on whether or not the impact of the head-on collision will be severe. Some are resorting to dirty political tricks by using the name of the UNDP [Union Nationalities Development Party] in creating panic with their publication entitled "Unfinished Democracy Bomb Is About To Explode."

The commander said regardless of how much they instigate and write, the military personnel should not have any anxiety or worry. He said that as for us, we will continue to work according to Declaration No. 1/90. He said he could not even think of what else they would resort to if things do not take place according to their instigations and writings. He said the public, including the military personnel, who are hearing what they do not hear, are likely to be anxious and worried. Some might even lightly think: Well, just hand over power. However, he said, seriously thinking, if the power is transferred without a firm constitution, the union is likely to head toward disintegration. Even before the power transfer, national groups are saying they have the right to separate statehood while states are hinting about the right to secede. You are likely to have heard references to the country of Myanmar, which is designated as being located above Thayetmyo, while the country of Mon is designated as being located below Thayetmyo. He said that if the power is transferred without a firm constitution, states and ethnic groups could advocate defiance against all forms of authority and make demands and attacks on the government which emerged under an interim constitution, and we should ask what they would do then.

The commander said if [power] is given because this cannot be avoided, then the union will disintegrate into fragments. Addressing the Peasants Seminar held on 2 January 1964, the then chief of staff of the Defense Services [General Ne Win] said: There are some persons in the country who are scheming to collude with foreign countries in order to obtain power in the country; these people only have concern for their own interests with total disregard for others. I would like to tell them this: During the internal palace crisis prior to the Third Anglo-Burmese War in Burma, there were some who relied on the British while some relied on the French, and the end result of reliance on others was enslavement. The commander said we should take a lesson from this speech. He said if we follow the path of obtaining power by relying on foreign countries, the country will again be enslaved.

The commander said another point he would like to explain is on the grudge shown toward our Defense Services. He said that while one person [Aung San Suu Kyi] explicitly compared our Defense Services to the fascists, the so-called spokesman [U Kyi Maung] from that organization [the National League for Democracy] mentioned the Nuremberg trials in reference to us. We can conclude that since the Nuremberg trials put fascist Nazis on trial, it is an indirect reference to us as fascists. That organization has made only indirect references to their attitude toward the Defense Services.

It has not spelled out its attitude toward the Defense Services. Likewise, we do not know about its programs regarding the issues of states, indigenous national groups, and the economy. They have only repeatedly made utterances about the immediate transfer of power, peace, and peace talks with insurgents. If power is transferred under uncertain terms at the time when efforts should be made to build the country up according to definite rules and regulations, the union wil disintegrate and the country will once again be enslaved. Therefore, the commander said, we are firmly saying that we will work according to Declaration No. 1/90. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, the commander said that between the time of independence [1948] and the Mong Yang and Methawe battles [1989], over 28,500 members of the Defense Services were killed and over 50,000 lost limbs. [passage omitted] He said he gave a solemn pledge to the disabled comrades who had sacrificed that we in active duty will safeguard the country's independence in the spirit of sacrifice and valor like them.

He said that, like the maxim "Soldiers wait for battle to demonstrate their bravery; soldiers are happy when they see the enemy so they can show their skill and bravery," we will confront with pleasure all dangers that befall the state and will safeguard the state. [passage omitted] He said we pledge to prevent the disintegration of the union and recurrence of enslavement as long as the Defense Services remain strong and as long as we live. [passage omitted]

He said that to ensure peace and tranquillity among monks and laymen, disturbances and instigations will be prevented in accordance with the teachings of Lawka Thara Poem [ancient treatise on human ethics], which instructs kings who rule the people to uproot and eliminate danger because only when danger is uprooted and eliminated will there be peace and contentment among monks and laity living in villages. He said he would like to urge the regimental and unit commanders present at the meeting to tell their dependants to be prepared to face any dangers that may emerge. He then urged them to discharge their duties conscientiously and explain the present situation to others.

The meeting ended at 0930.

Tensions Rise Between Military Junta, NLD

BK0509070290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0646 GMT 5 Sep 90

[By Erskine McCullough]

[Text] Bangkok, Sept 5 (AFP)—A drawn-out face-off between Burma's main political party and its ruling military junta is rapidly bringing tensions to a head, threatening to ruin the country's hesitant approach to democracy, Western analysts here and in Rangoon say.

The National League for Democracy (NLD) surprised nearly everyone—including itself and the junta—when it swept general elections in May, sparking an uncompromising struggle over the transition of power.

Fears of an all-out confrontation have become stronger than ever as the NLD appears to abandon its policy of-non confrontation and the junta maintains its hard-line stance.

The May election left the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), as the ruling junta is officially called, in a quandary: How to retain power without seeming to ignore the results of the country's first free polls in nearly three decades. Rangoon-based diplomats said the SLORC quickly found a simple but effective key to avoid relinquishing office: the country's constitution. The junta insists that no government can be formed until a new constitution is drawn up and voted in a national referendum.

Diplomats say the military's guidelines on how the constitution should be drawn up and finally approved could take years to put into effect. "Quite simply, the military retain power while at the same time hiding behind a front, trying to diguise the fact that they are ignoring the will of the people who made their wishes clear in the May 27 election," one diplomat said.

Throughout the summer, it looked as if the delaying tactics would work. The NLD leadership publicly branded the manoeuvering as "shameful," but concentrated privately on a policy of non-confrontation with the SLORC. Analysists are now convinced that this policy is rapidly fading, to be replaced with a possible direct challenge the junta would be unable to ignore.

The NLD has already set a September deadline for the SLORC to convene parliament. Last month, NLD members in Mandalay, Burma's political hotbed, called on their party to ignore a SLORC warning that any parliament that convened before a constitution was drawn up would be illegal and dealt with appropriately. "It looks as if the NLD might just go ahead this month and form a parliament," a diplomat said. "There has been a clear toughening of attitude at the top of the party's leadership."

Few observers doubt the SLORC's ability or willingness to react strongly if the NLD decides to challenge it openly. Reports last month from Mandalay said four people were shot dead when troops opened fire on demonstrating students and monks. The SLORC was quick to deny that anyone had been killed, but diplomats are convinced that the fatalities occurred. "There is too much evidence from eyewitnesses," one of them said. "I don't think any independent observer accepts the junta's claim that no one was killed."

Adding to the fears of a possible confrontation this month is the upcoming anniversary of September 18, 1988, coup that followed bloody demonstrations in which more than 1,000 people were estimated to have been gunned down in the streets by troops. "Obviously, the anniversary creates tension," one analyst said. "But when you add the September deadline set by the NLD and the SLORC's continued refusal to hand over power, you have a very explosive situation."

Earlier this week, the junta launched a scathing attack on the NLD, insisting that they were unprepared to take office and had no real policies on how to run the country.

"The more this continues, the more likely something is likely to happen," one diplomat said. "Burma is a land of anniversaries and there are always fears when they come around that the lid will finally blow off. "So far this year, the fears have been unfounded but I think it would be foolish as well as dangerous to believe that because there have been no serious troubles since the election, the Burmese people will not finally vent their fustration," he added.

Western diplomats and observers agree the fuse has been lit. The only doubt is over just how short it might be.

Further on Visit by Japan's Watanabe, Delegation

Saw Maung Meeting Detailed

OW3008120590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1124 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Yangon, Aug. 30 KYODO—Saw Maung, Myanmar's [Burma's] army strongman who heads the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), rejected calls for talks with the National League for Democracy (NLD) on Thursday, saying that the adoption of a national constitution must precede a transfer of power.

Saw Maung rejected a request from Michio Watanabe, who heads a faction of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), for talks with the NLD, if demand for a power transfer was the main topic, officials accompanying Watanabe said. The NLD won a landslide victory in parliamentary elections in May. Saw Maung said he would never permit a transitional government or a provisional constitution, the officials said.

The NLD has called for adoption of an interim constitution, to form a government, and release of prominent dissidents.

Concerning the release from house arrest of NLD General Secretary Aung San Suu Kyi, Saw Maung was quoted as telling Watanabe she will be freed only when she suspends political activities, to "devote (herself) to literature" or "return to Britain."

Watanabe is the first Japanese Government and LDP leader to visit Myanmar since Saw Maung came to power on September 18, 1988, after military suppression of pro-democracy movements.

In a meeting that went for more than two hours, the officials said, Saw Maung told Watanabe he was prepared to talk with the opposition. He noted that if the military wanted a transfer of power, it would have formed a political party and participated in the elections, the officials said.

The general refused to open some universities which have been closed, on the grounds that students possibly would return armed.

Trade Minister Receives Delegation

BK0109062790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, received a visiting Japanese delegation led by Mr. Michio Watanabe, member of Lower House of the Japanese Parliament, at 1800 today at Manawhari Guest House on Ahlone Road. They held cordial and frank talks on bilateral economic and trade relations.

Present at the talks were U Ohn Kyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Division; U Win Kyi, director general of the Trade Directorate; U Min Aung, director general of the Department of Budget; and U Maung Maung Han, chairman of the Central Bank of Myanmar [Burma].

In the evening, Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, hosted a dinner in honor of the Japanese delegation at the restaurant in the People's Park.

Delegation Departs 1 Sep

BK0209084390 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] A Japanese delegation led by Mr. Michio Watanabe, member of Lower House of the Japanese Parliament, left Yangon [Rangoon] by special aircraft this morning at 0830. It was seen off at the airport by U Ohn Kyaw, director general of Political Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and responsible personnel as well as Japanese Ambassador Mr. Tomoya Kawamura and embassy officials.

During their stay in Myanmar [Burma], the Japanese delegation members visited the Shwedagon Pagoda on the morning of 30 August and left for Mandalay by special aircraft in the afternoon. They were greeted at Mandalay Airport by Colonel Aung Khin, deputy commander of Central Military Command, and responsible personnel. Next, Major General Tun Kyi, commander of Central Military Command and chairman of Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council hosted a luncheon at the Pyikhindaw Hall. The delegation members went to Mandalay Hill by a motorcade, visited the Byadeikpay Pagoda, and viewed Mandalay City from the hill. After visiting the Mahamyatmuni Pagoda they proceeded to Pagan Nyaung-U by special aircraft. The delegation members visited the Thabinnyu and Ananda pagodas and went on a study tour of the Burmese lacquerware school and archaeological museum on the morning of 31 August. They returned to Yangon in the evening.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

'Last Batch' of Malaysians Return From Mideast

BK3108132190 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Speaking to newsmen in Kuala Lumpur today, Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says he is happy now that the last batch of Malaysians stranded in Kuwait and Iraq have safely returned home. They arrived in Kuala Lumpur at midnight last night by Royal Jordanian Airlines.

[Begin Mahathir recording] At first I was doubtful whether or not they would be able to return to Malaysia. However, through the efforts of the Foreign Ministry and other groups, we were able to evacuate our people from Kuwait to Baghdad, and later to Amman. From Amman they were able to be flown home. We should thank God because no one experienced any untoward incident.

After saving our nationals, we must also consider saving other nationals, especially those of our friendly nations. For example, Bangladesh has requested the Malaysian Government to help evacuate 100,000 Bangladesh nationals stranded in Amman and Turkey. We have tried to get a plane to evacuate them. Thus, I deem the safety of those not involved in the war is very important. [end recording]

Minister Warns Oil Prices Not To Affect Goods

BK0209103590 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] The government will try its best to ensure that the prices of goods are not raised following the increase in petrol prices and gas yesterday. Minister of Trade and Industry Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz says the enforcement division of the ministry will take stern action against any traders who raise the prices of goods indiscriminately or hoard the goods to derive extra profit. The public could contact the enforcement division in their respective state if there were instances of traders increasing the prices of goods. She said this to reporters after opening a workshop on Bumiputra [indigenous people] participation in trade and industry in Kota Baharu. Datuk Sri Rafidah also said that the prices of goods should not be increased for no apparent reason because the government had specific rules to follow in controlling the prices of goods.

Official Opposes Barring Iraq From Asian Games

BK0409121990 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0854 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sept 4 (BERNAMA)—Malaysia is against barring Iraq from the coming Asian Games in Beijing because it will be contrary to the Constitution of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). Olympic Council of Malaysia (OCM) President Hamzah Abu Samah said OCA cannot be governed by United Nations' resolutions on the Gulf issue because they are political in nature and contravene Article 3 [Section] (2) of the OCA constitution.

OCA had asked its 38 member countries to vote by post whether to exclude Iraq, which invaded Kuwait on 2 August, from the Asiad to be hosted by China for the first time.

The Asian Games is scheduled in Beijing from 22 September to 7 October.

OCA Treasurer Santiphap Techawanit of Thailand was reported as saying that several Arab countries had threatened a boycott if Iraq competes in the games.

Hamzah, a former senior vice-president of OCA, said the best course is to accept the participation of all OCA members, Iraq and Kuwait included, which had submitted entries to Beijing. "There is a strong likelihood that Iraq will protest Kuwait's presence in the Games. And it is up to Iraq to decide to stay or back out," he said.

Hamzah said Article 3 [Section] (2) of the OCA constitution states that participating countries cannot be discriminated on political grounds. He had telexed his views to OCA Secretary-General C.L. Mehta yesterday.

Official Fears 'Economic Clutches' of Singapore

BK0209110190 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Aug 90 p 21

[Text] A former Malaysian minister, Datuk Shahrir Samad, has criticised the Federal government for allowing Johor to fall into what he called "the economic clutches of Singapore" through the proposed growth triangle.

Writing in the fortnightly tabloid WATAN, Datuk Shahrir said the Federal government since the time of former prime minister Tun Abdul Razak had made sure that Johor's economy would not come under Singapore's grip. To achieve this, facilities such as Senai airport and the port of Pasir Gudang had been developed. But Johor's active involvement in the triangle for economic co-operation proposed by Singapore would undermine the original purpose of development in Johor, Datuk Shahrir said.

The Johor Baru MP [member of Parliament] expressed the fear that Johor's participation in the triangle could adversely affect the performance of Senai airport and Pasir Gudang port. He said: "Looking at the infrastructural projects in Johor now which receive the Federal government's support, it seems that Kuala Lumpur's economic strategy for Johor is for the state to increase its dependence on Singapore's development. For instance, the construction of the second link between Singapore and Johor would certainly strengthen Singapore's role as a growth centre for Johor. But if the same amount of money were to be spent on the expansion of the Pasir Gudang port, goods exported through Singapore could be diverted to the port in Johor, and the second link would no longer be needed."

As an alternative to Johor's participation in the economic triangle, he proposed that the facilities and the services sector in Johor be upgraded so that the state could compete with Singapore.

Singapore

Official Says Ties With Malaysia 'Excellent'

BK3108144590 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] The second deputy prime minister says the present relations between Singapore and Malaysia are excellent, and he hopes the two countries can further improve on it. Mr. Ong Teng Cheong felt that there can be more exchange of visits among the leaders as well as the people. This will help them get to know each other and promote understanding between the two countries.

Mr. Ong was speaking to reporters at the reception to celebrate Malaysia's National Day. It was hosted by the Malaysian high commissioner to Singapore, Datuk Zainal Abidin Mokhtar, at a local hotel.

Law Requires Permits for Foreign Publications

BK0109101990 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 31 Aug 90 p 27

[Text] The Government wants certain foreign newspapers and journals to apply for a permit to circulate here to reinforce the point that they sell in Singapore as a matter of privilege and not a right. It would also correct the present anomaly where Singapore newspapers require a permit to publish, whereas foreign publications do not, said Mr Mah Bow Tan, Minister of State for Communications and Information.

Moving the second reading of a Bill to amend the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act yesterday, he said that the legislation was not intended to curb the circulation of any publication or prevent the free flow of information in Singapore. It was meant to establish the point that foreign publications circulate in Singapore as a matter of privilege and that if they want to sell here, they must abide by Singapore laws and agree to come under the jurisdiction of the courts here.

The new legislation is aimed at newspapers and journals published outside Singapore at intervals of not more than a week, and which carry articles commenting or reporting on the politics and current affairs of Southeast Asian countries. It does not cover those with a circulation lower than 300 copies per issue.

A permit, valid for one year and renewable, is given subject to certain conditions, and can be refused as well as revoked without the Government having to say why. In granting a permit, the Government will:

- —Specify the maximum number of copies allowed to sell here.
- —Require the publication's proprietor to appoint an agent here to accept the service of any legal process on his behalf and on behalf of the publisher.
- —Require the proprietor to place a specified deposit or some form of security to meet the cost of any legal proceedings that may arise.

Explaining these features, Mr Mah said some foreign newspapers whose circulations here had risen might get the impression that they had a right to sell here. "This may also have led them to the assumption that they must play the same role that they play in their home markets, being part and parcel of the political process, taking sides and influencing events," he said. Having to apply for a permit would underline the point that they are foreign observers of the local scene and should not interfere in domestic politics, he said.

He said that the maximum limit on circulation would generally be set higher than the current circulation and would be reviewed each time the permit was renewed. But publications which engaged in domestic politics would have their circulations held at a fixed level or reduced.

Mr Mah also explained that the Government wanted foreign publications to have an authorised agent here because it had faced difficulties in serving summonses on publications based outside Singapore. For example, he said that it took five months before lawyers for Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew could serve notice of summons on Mr Peter Kann, the president and chief operating officer of the American Dow-Jones corporation. Mr Mah noted that ASIAWEEK had accepted Singapore's stand on foreign publications and Dow Jones, which owns the gazetted ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL and the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, had similarly acknowledged the Government's position.

The Bill would ensure that no foreign publication had any doubts as to the conditions under which it circulated here.

It is understood that no more than 20 foreign publications would be affected by this Bill, and they include the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, TIME, NEWSWEEK and USA TODAY.

Increased Circulation of ASIAWEEK Allowed

BK3108152590 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Aug 90

[All figures as heard]

[Text] ASIAWEEK is to be allowed to increase its circulation by 3,500 to 7,500 copies per issue from tomorrow. This was announced by the Ministry of Communications and Information. ASIAWEEK was declared in 1987 as a newspaper engaging in the domestic politics of Singapore under the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act. This regulation had [words indistinct] 500 copies per issue. In 1988, the government raised (?its circulation) to 5,000 after the editor in chief, Mr. Michael O'Neill, accepted Singapore's position on the foreign press.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Answers Letter From Indonesia's Alatas

BK0409141190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 4 Sep 90

["Message from Chairman of the Council of Ministers Comrade Hun Sen to His Excellency Ali Alatas, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia; dated 4 September, Phnom Penh"]

[Text] Your Excellency:

I would like to sincerely thank you for your letter dated 4 September 1990. Please allow me to frankly present to you the following views in connection with the upcoming talks in Jakarta:

I still do not understand why you have not invited Samdech Sihanouk to join the planned meeting. This is because:

1. Samdech Sihanouk remains the head of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK] and is widely considered a key figure in any political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

2. For this reason, why haven't you invited Samdech Sihanouk to the crucial meeting for which you have said the whole international community has high hopes of success? Moreover, the meeting is a gathering of all the Cambodian parties within the framework of the Paris conference on Cambodia, at which Samdech Sihanouk was the head of the CGDK delegation.

I can only agree on non-invitation of Samdech Sihanouk when the samdech has definitively relinquished all political activities. That being the case, if Samdech Sihanouk remains the head of the CGDK, meaning he still actively conducts political activities, I ask you to reconsider the possibility of inviting this person, who is generally considered a key figure, to participate in the meeting.

As for myself, I wish to assure you that I can be present at any time and anywhere in order to find a political solution with all the leaders of the CGDK, including Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Your Excellency, please accept my sincere salutations.

[Signed] Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers

Phnom Penh Appeals to Sihanouk To Attend Talks

BK0509025690 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Station commentary: "It Is Requested that Samdech Sihanouk Attend the Meeting of the Cambodian Parties in Jakarta"]

[Text] At the initiative of the five permanent members of the United Nations and at the insistence of countries involved in the Cambodian conflict, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia will soon organize a meeting of the Cambodian parties. The objective of this meeting is to finalize the composition of the supreme national council [SNC] and move toward the first session of this council; this is the key issue for solving problems pending and for a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem. At this meeting, the Cambodian parties will discuss the five framework documents the major powers released at their sixth meeting in New York City on 28 August.

Full of genuine and unchanging goodwill, the State of Cambodia has welcomed and will attend this significant meeting. This stance was clearly stated in a message Comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen addressed to His Excellency Ali Alatas, Indonesian Foreign Minister and cochairman of the Paris conference on Cambodia. However, it is very regrettable that Samdech Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian national government, has refused to attend the meeting. The public is very puzzled by the samdech's negative decision.

Is this because the samdech thinks that this conference will fail because the Khmer Rouge would destroy any agreement, as this group had done in the past? If this is the case, we think that there is no use spending time and money to serve the destruction of the murderous and bloodthirsty Pol Pot clique. Or is this because Samdech Sihanouk does not want to see the establishment of the SNC because of his insistence on the provisional four-party coalition government, which would recognize the legitimacy of the Pol Pot group and pave the way for the Pol Pot group to massacre the Cambodian people for the second time? If this is really his intention, he is going against the world which calls for obstructing the genocidal clique. Or is it because Samdech Sihanouk wants to detach himself and form another party apart from the three parties of the Cambodian national government to further complicate and deadlock a solution to the Cambodian problem?

All these are questions raised for world opinion which is interested in the Cambodian issue. They are also raised for Samdech Sihanouk. We think that if the samdech really wants a just solution to the Cambodian problem aimed at ending the Cambodian people's suffering, the samdech should change his mind and attend the Jakarta meeting himself to assist in breaking the deadlock on a solution to the Cambodian problem. In this case, Comrade Hun Sen would immediately go to Jakarta to attend the meeting. However, if the samdech insists on not attending, the State of Cambodia will instead send Comrade Hor Nam Hong, minister attached to the cabinet of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, to lead a delegation to attend the meeting.

We think that the ball is now in Samdech Sihanouk's court. If he kicks the ball, the game will start. In this case, the Jakarta meeting will certainly achieve positive results. However, if he does not kick the ball, a solution to the Cambodian problem will be delayed providing a good opportunity for the Khmer Rouge-Pol Pot group to expand and fuel the civil war in Cambodia.

Political Bureau Reshuffles Takeo Party Members

BK0309142390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Communique on the 1 September meeting of the party Central Committee Political Bureau issued in Phnom Penh on 3 September]

[Text] Considering the essential requirements of the Cambodian revolution in the phase to assume full responsibility for the tasks of national defense and construction toward genuine peace, security, and progress, pursuant to the spirit of the resolutions of the fifth party Central Committee's 11th session, to enhance the leadership efficiency of the party and state in the face of this new situation, and to increase the confidence of the masses in the new regime, the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, at its meeting on 1 September 1990, decided to remove the inactive cadres and appoint a number of core cadres in Takeo Province as follows:

1. Suspend from duty for investigation:

Comrade Sun Sakhon, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee; Comrade Im On, member of the provincial party committee, vice chairman of the provincial people's committee, and chief of Takeo Provincial trade service; and Comrade (Huon Hiek), secretary of Kirivong District's provisional party committee.

2. Appoint Comrade (So Phirom), standing member of the provincial party committee and standing vice chairman of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee, as deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee.

3. Transfer and appoint Comrade (Toch Mari), member of the provincial party committee and secretary of the Takeo provincial town's provisional party committee, as standing member of the provincial party committee and as standing vice chairman of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee.

4. Transfer and appoint Comrade (Nuon Bophal), chairman of the Tram Kak District people's committee, as standing member of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee.

5. Transfer and appoint Comrade (Tim Sokhai), chairman of Prey Kabbas District People's Committee, as standing member of the Takeo Provincial People's Committee.

The Council of Ministers and Council of State of the State of Cambodia have already approved the suspension from duty and appointment of the abovementioned cadres and agreed to implement this decision according to their authorities.

6. Promote female Comrade Nin Saphon, standing member of the provincial party committee and chief of the Organization Department of Takeo Province, to the post of deputy secretary attached to the provincial party committee and chief of the provincial Organization Department.

7. Ease the duty of Comrade Put Kheou, deputy secretary attached to the provincial party committee, by transferring him to take up the post of deputy secretary of the provincial party committee in charge of mass organization.

8. Ease the duty of Comrade (Thor Sen), member of the provincial party committee, standing member of the provincial people's committee, and chief of the provincial agriculture service, by transferring him to be in charge of secretary of the Kirivong District's provisional party committee while maintaining his position as member of the provincial party committee and his political (?status).

Phnom Penh, 3 September 1990

Khmer Rouge Reportedly To Attend Jakarta Talks

BK0509011390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] The planned Cambodian peace talks in Indonesia almost fell through yesterday when the Khmer Rouge threatened to boycott them if Phnom Penh refused to join in. But in a sudden change of heart, the communist resistance faction agreed to go to Jakarta after all. The Khmer Rouge's change of decision was conveyed to Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Kasemsamoson Kasemsi at the Foreign Ministry yesterday, a ministry spokesman said.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS reported that in a move that could have undermined discussions on a UN plan to end Cambodia's civil war, the Khmer Rouge earlier yesterday said they would not attend the peace talks in Indonesia unless Hun Sen, the premier of the Vietnamese-backed government, did so.

The talks, scheduled to start today, were to focus on the new UN Security Council plan and on formation of a Supreme National Council, a body that would guide the nation in the period before elections. Only one of the leaders of the four Cambodian factions was originally expected at the talks.

Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, reacting to the Khmer Rouge's decision earlier yesterday, said he was disappointed by the Cambodians' moves and indicated he was trying to work out the squabble.

"The whole world is placing its hope on the Jakarta meeting, especially after the Big Five have made a breakthrough," he said. "Now is the best time to try it. The Cambodian leaders should be able to see this."

In a statement, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan said he changed his mind about going to Jakarta after hearing a state radio report that Cambodian Premier Hun Sen was not going. He said that showed Phnom Penh and Vietnam "are not sincere in the search for a solution" and did not accept the UN peace plan. But Khieu Samphan added he would go to Jakarta if Hun Sen also went. "If Hun Sen doesn't go, there is no point in having any meeting," said another Khmer Rouge official, who demanded anonymity.

Fighting will continue, he said, because "fighting has the aim of forcing the Vietnamese to talk." [passage omitted]

In a statement issued from Beijing Tuesday, Sihanouk said Hun Sen "has no right whatsoever" to demand that he attend the talks. Hun Sen should negotiate with Son Sann, who is premier of the resistance coalition, he said.

Sihanouk also said the agreement he signed with Hun Sen in June on forming the Supreme National Council was no longer valid because the Khmer Rouge had objected to it. The government side must consider the UN plan as the sole basis for discussions in Jakarta, he said.

Sihanouk also said each of the four factions must be treated on an equal footing. That apparently referred to the Khmer Rouge's objection that the June agreement was unfair because the government got six seats on the council while each guerrilla group got only two. [passage omitted]

Hun Sen's Refusal To Attend Talks Viewed

BK0509015490 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Station commentary: "The Refusal of Puppet Hun Sen, Vietnam's lackey, To Attend the Four Cambodian Party Meeting in Jakarta Shows the Intransigence of the Hanoi Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors To Oppose the International Community's Efforts for Peace in Cambodia"]

[Text] At the proposal and with the support of many countries, including the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], the Indonesian Government has made preparations for a meeting of all four Cambodian parties in Jakarta on 5 September to discuss and set up a Cambodian supreme national council [SNC] on the basis of the agreement among the UNSC five permanent members.

Leaders of the tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces welcomed this initiative and are ready to leave for Jakarta with a reconciliatory spirit to set up the SNC as quickly as possible. However, as the opening of the meeting nears, puppet Hun Sen has announced that he is not going to the meeting in Jakarta. This has greatly disappointed the general public, because earlier everyone felt that the opportunity to solve the Cambodian problem had arrived and that conditions were sufficient for ending the war in Cambodia as the UNSC five permanent members had agreed on the basic principles for solving the problem.

But now puppet Hun Sen has refused to attend the meeting. He has destroyed this meeting. This is an insolent gesture toward the international community. This also indicates the weakest point of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys: They are completely isolated and at an impasse. Vietnam and its puppets cannot dupe anyone anymore. The Vietnamese enemy's order barring puppet Hun Sen from attending the Jakarta meeting, once again, shows the world that Vietnam and its puppets categorically oppose the peace plan of the UNSC five permanent members and categorically oppose a UN role to control and administer Cambodia in the transitional period. This means that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys oppose all efforts by the international community aimed at solving the problem, restoring peace in Cambodia, and ensuring peace, security, and stability in the region.

Thus, the intransigent attitude of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys toward the Jakarta meeting, once again, clearly shows who is the obstacle to a peaceful solution in Cambodia. It is the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys.

SRV 'Aggressors' Urged To Support Solution

Ranariddh Delivers Message

BK0409085590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Message from Prince Norodom Ranariddh, supreme commander of the National Army of Independent Kampucheaa [ANKI], to officers and troops of the ANKI on the ANKI ninth founding anniversary; dated 4 September—recorded]

[Summary] "I would like to take this solemn opportunity to inform you about the latest international political event, namely the satisfactory resolutions the five major powers—China, the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain, and France—adopted on 28 August, that is, the documents on the framework for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem."

"The valiant struggle and the great sacrifice of combatants of the entire Cambodian resistance forces are an undeniable factor influencing the outcome of the five major powers' historic and major documents. We still cannot forget the insolent statement by a Communist Vietnamese leader named Pham Van Dong who, after Vietnamese troops invaded our Cambodia at the end of 1977-early 1978, said the Cambodian situation is irreversible. Now all Vietnamese leaders have been compelled to most disgracefully admit to the international community that the Cambodian problem should be left to Cambodians themselves to solve within their sovereignty. This is amazing."

"We nationalist Cambodians know who the aggressors are, who those sincerely assisting us are, who those plundering our ancestors' cultural heritage are, who those moving border markers to annex Cambodian territory are, who those hiding to carry out subversive activities to split the Cambodian nation are, who those sending hundreds of thousands, millions of nationals to settle and plunder our natural resources are, and who the Cambodian nationalists are." "What we cannot allow is for those whose greedy ambition is to suck our blood to do so."

"Our struggle is now in its final phase. The Vietnamese aggressors have been forced by the international community and the entire Vietnamese people to acknowledge their immense mistake and restore independence and peace to Cambodia in accordance with the comprehensive political solution stated in the documents adopted by the five major powers, the permanent members of the UN Security Council."

"I vigorously appeal to all Cambodians under the control of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime to vigorously assist and support the reasonable solution in accordance with these international documents. Please do not allow Vietnam and its servants to get away with it this time."

Nguyen Co Thach Statement Viewed

BK0209035890 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Station commentary: "Why Did Nguyen Co Thach Voice Opposition to the Regrouping and Disarming of Armed Forces of All the Cambodian Parties?"]

[Text] The Hanoi foreign minister on 28 August said that Vietnam would categorically object to any peace plan calling for regrouping the Armed Forces of all the Cambodian parties into a UN-designated cantonment area, then disarming them. Nguyen Co Thach's comments were made when the five permanent members of the UN Security Council agreed on a peace plan designed to resolve the Cambodian problem via comprehensive political means. The peace plan demands that a UN peacekeeping force be stationed in Cambodia and the Armed Forces of all the Cambodian parties be regrouped into a UN-designated area and disarmed.

By all appearances, with the Vietnamese foreign minister's statement, the world can clearly see that Vietnam does not want to resolve its war of aggression and occupation of Cambodia and that it continues to oppose peace efforts displayed by the United Nations and international community as it has done since 1979.

Why has Vietnam objected to the regrouping and disarming of the Armed Forces of all the Cambodian parties by the United Nations? Because the Hanoi-Vietnamese enemies are afraid that the United Nations will catch, regroup, and disarm the over 100,000 Vietnamese troops, including the more than 30,000 of those mixed among the puppet troops, who are in various disguises in Cambodia. If the over 100,000 troops are disarmed, this will not only affect the Vietnamese strategy of swallowing Cambodia, but also reveal to the world the true tortuous, tricky, and perfidious nature of Vietnam which has intensely told a pack of lies about having completely withdrawn its forces from Cambodia in September 1989. The Vietnamese themselves, and also through their lackey puppets, have objected to a UN role, the dispatch of the UN peacekeeping force, and the regrouping and disarming of the Armed Forces of all the Cambodian parties. Consequently, the Vietnamese and their lackey puppets are the real obstacle to a political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Only stronger joint international pressure can force the Vietnamese and their lackey puppets to accept a comprehensive, just, and definitive political solution to the Cambodian problem as desired by the Cambodian people and the international community.

Opposition to UN Plan Criticized

BK0209075490 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Station commentary: "The Vietnamese Enemies and Their Lackey Puppets React Against the Efforts by the International Community To Achieve Peace in Cambodia"]

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has recently rejected with insolence the resolution of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] calling for disarming the Armed Forces engaged in fighting on the battlefield. He has also rejected the United Nations' role to administer Cambodia during the transitional period and demanded that the puppet regime be preserved.

Why have the Hanoi Vietnamese reacted so arrogantly? Nguyen Co Thach's insolent reaction clearly shows that Vietnam has its back to the wall and is totally isolated with no recourse. Its fallacious diplomatic maneuvers can no longer deceive people. The five permanent members of the UNSC have adopted a document consisting of five chapters providing a specific framework for a settlement of the Vietnamese war of aggression via comprehensive political means.

The National Government of Cambodia [NGC] and the Cambodian National Resistance [CNR] headed by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk have expressed their full support for the UNSC proposals. The Cambodian people inside and outside the country, the ASEAN states, and the international community have also upheld the plan mapped out and the efforts displayed by the five permanent members of the UNSC. The Hanoi enemy aggressors and their lackey puppets are now denounced as warmongers and opponents of a political settlement to end their war of aggression. They are sabotaging the process to achieve a political solution to their war of aggression, because they do not want to spit Cambodia out. However, they are facing a complete impasse, and the Soviet Union can do nothing to succor them at this stage of the game. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors can never avoid putting an end to their war of aggression against Cambodia in keeping with the significance of the big five's 28 August plan.

Heng Samrin Statement Discussed

BK0409040090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Unattributed commentary: "The Hanoi Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Vietnam's Puppets and Lackeys Clearly Oppose the Peace Plan of the UN Security Council's Five Permanent Members"]

[Text] On 1 September, at the order of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, puppet Heng Samrin, lackey of the Vietnamese, issued a most insolent and arrogant statement to the world saying that:

1. Vietnam's puppet regime in Phnom Penh categorically opposes the peace plan of the UN Security Council's five permanent members.
2. The puppet regime, both its army and state authorities, should be maintained until elections.

This statement of puppet Heng Samrin clearly shows that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys are refusing to solve and end their war of aggression in Cambodia. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors grossly oppose the international community's efforts to restore stability in Cambodia and ensure peace and security in the region. Why do the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys oppose the peace plan of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and struggle to maintain Vietnam's puppet regime, including its military and political structures and state authorities?

Here are the reasons:

1. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors are hiding and disguising their aggressor forces throughout Cambodia, among the puppet troops and the puppet administration, from top to bottom, right down to villages and communes, and among security forces, the police, and other sectors.
2. Over a million Vietnamese settlers are living in Cambodia and plundering the Cambodian people's land, villages, homes, and rice fields. Hundreds of thousands of these Vietnamese settlers have already been granted Cambodian nationality.
3. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have annexed a great deal of Cambodian border areas, both on land and at sea, from Kampot, Takeo, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, up to Ratanakiri and Mondolkiri.

It is for these reasons that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys are opposing the UNSC five permanent members and refusing a solution to end Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia. The Vietnamese enemy needs to maintain the puppet regime and use it as a smokescreen for their aggressor forces to continue occupying Cambodia.

However, the international community will not allow the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets Heng Samrin and Hun Sen, Vietnam's lackeys, to do whatever they want and will pressure the latter to accept the peace plan of the UNSC five permanent members.

Vietnam Blamed

BK0309034290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Unattributed commentary: "The Hanoi Vietnamese Are Carrying Out Maneuvers To Avoid the UN Security Council's Five Permanent Members' Framework for Solving the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] Recently the Hanoi Vietnamese indirectly rejected the resolutions of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, saying Vietnam welcomes the agreement of the five permanent members but Cambodia's internal affairs should be left to the Cambodian people themselves to decide. What are the goals of the Hanoi Vietnamese in raising the so-called issues of internal affairs, Cambodia's sovereignty, and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination?

Here is the real meaning of this Vietnamese statement:

1. Vietnam rejects the resolutions of the five permanent members by saying that the latter interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs, as it has been saying.

2. Vietnam is attempting to prevent all four Cambodian parties, which are planning to meet in Jakarta soon, from meeting on the basis of the five permanent members' resolutions. The statement by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their out-and-out puppets and lackeys clearly shows that the Hanoi Vietnamese and their puppets are at an impasse but their stance remains the same. They are trying to maneuver to prevent the Jakarta meeting of all four Cambodian parties from reaching an agreement within the framework adopted by the five permanent members.

The ASEAN countries, like the international community in general and the Cambodian national resistance forces, fully support the framework for a solution submitted by the five permanent members and hope that the Cambodian problem will be quickly solved on the basis of this framework. Therefore, any failure in solving the Cambodian problem fully rests on Vietnam and its puppets.

VOK Urges Acceptance of Plan

BK0309081890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Political commentary: "The Time Has Come for the Vietnamese Leaders"]

[Text] The most affected parties in the Cambodian problem are Cambodia, the victim, and Vietnam, the aggressor, whose economy is badly ruined due to its aggression against Cambodia.

The big five countries recently adopted a peace plan for Cambodia. This plan includes sufficient measures for ending the Cambodian problem. The main objective of this big five countries' peace plan is to settle the problem in a way that no one stands to lose. This peace plan will also help salvage all concerned parties, particularly Vietnam, from the quagmire of the Cambodian problem. Therefore, time has come for the Vietnamese leaders to agree to end the Cambodian problem, which has caused them quite a bit of trouble. The big five countries' plan is good enough for Vietnam. Vietnam is afraid that the Khmer Rouge will return to power and threaten its security in the future. But this plan has sufficient measures to prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power.

This peace plan instructs the Armed Forces of all Cambodian factions to gather in a place under UN supervision and disarm. A 10,000-man UN force is to be dispatched to keep the peace and security in Cambodia. To quell Vietnam's fear that the Khmer Rouge might hide weapons, the peace plan states that the UN Peacekeeping Force will conduct operations to search arms caches throughout Cambodia. Therefore, there is no reason for Vietnam to be afraid of the Khmer Rouge. What else is Vietnam afraid of? Vietnam is afraid that the Hun Sen group that it has installed might lose power in free elections in Cambodia. Vietnam should stop worrying about this problem because it is an internal matter of Cambodia that can be settled only by the Cambodian people.

Whichever regime will be chosen, it is up to the Cambodian people to decide. Vietnam has no right to oppose the Cambodian people's decision. Vietnam should accept the fact that its attempt to maintain a Vietnamese-satellite regime in Cambodia is the cause for its confrontation with the world community, which is jointly pressuring it to abandon its policy of aggression and occupation against Cambodia. Vietnam cannot avoid this pressure so long as it continues its aggressive policy against Cambodia.

Therefore, the peace plan that the five powers have adopted is a bridge for Vietnam to cross over from the danger arising from its involvement in the Cambodian problem. Vietnam should accept this plan because it directly benefits Vietnam. Vietnam should not let this good opportunity pass by. Vietnam cannot annex Cambodia into its Indochinese federation as late President Ho Chi Minh dreamed of. Time has come for Vietnam to abandon its ambition. This is the only alternative for Vietnam.

Battalion in Phnum Sruoch Reportedly Ambushed

BK0409030290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] On 29 August, our national resistance forces ambushed a battalion of the Vietnamese enemy and puppet troops east of Krang Samrae village in O commune, Phnum Sruoch District, Kompong Speu Province. We killed six enemy soldiers, including a company commander, and wounded 10 others. We also seized four AK's, a B-41, and more ammunition and war materiel.

Indonesia

Further on Evacuations, Response to Gulf Crisis

167 Diplomats, Workers Arrive

BK0509075090 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] This morning 167 Indonesians who were stranded in Amman, Jordan, flew into Halim Perdanakusumah

Airport in Jakarta. The group which entered Amman via Kuwait and Iraq comprised Indonesian workers and diplomatic staff members. Among them were 28 children ranging in age from four to 16 years, and eight infants. Sixteen more Indonesians who disembarked at Abu Dhabi will be flown to Jakarta by Garuda Airlines. They are expected to arrive today.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry Secretary General Suwarno Danusutejo, who was at the airport to welcome the group, expressed his thankfulness over their safe arrival in the country.

Philippines Requests Assistance

BK0509094990 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0839 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Jakarta, Sep 5 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Philippines will ask Indonesian assistance to help return its citizens from the Middle East in connection with the Gulf crisis following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

I have just received a report from Manila that the Philippines will ask Indonesian assistance to help transport its citizens, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said moments before attending a limited Cabinet meeting on economy, finance and industry at the Bina Graha presidential office here Wednesday. The minister said that the Indonesian Government was studying the Philippines request, considering the fact that there were many Philippine citizens in the Middle East.

The Philippines made the request after the Indonesian Government sent a Boeing 707 plane to pick up its citizens from the Middle East. The plane arrived back here early Wednesday with 154 Indonesians on board.

Alatas did not rule out the possibility for the Indonesian Government to send a second plane to transport its citizens from the Middle East. It depends on whether they (Indonesian citizens) already got together. If necessary we will send a second plane to help them get out from the region, the minister said.

Alatas said that some of the Indonesian Embassy staffs in Kuwait were still organizing the search for Indonesian workers who wanted to return home.

Manpower Minister Kosmas Batubara said meanwhile on the occasion there were still 374 Indonesian workers in Kuwait whose fates were still unknown. He said that it was not impossible that they had left Kuwait or evacuated together with their employers.

Suharto on Oil Prices

BK0509133990 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] President Suharto has decided that the sale price of state-owned oil will not be raised even though the government's subsidy on oil has been increased after oil prices in the international market rose sharply due to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Information Minister Harmoko made this announcement to newsmen after attending the limited Cabinet session at Bina Graha this morning. He said oil prices rose sharply after the Iraqi invasion and this could positively affect the country's income. By maintaining the current sale price of the state-owned oil, the head of state hoped that the country's internal economic stability and national development would not be affected.

The government has allocated a considerable subsidy on the sale of state-owned oil because Indonesia generally does not import much crude oil from either Saudi Arabia or Iran. Indonesia's crude oil import from the two countries only totalled about 100,000 barrels per day.

Garuda Air Increases Fares

BK0509135390 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Garuda Airlines has announced a five-percent fare increase for adult passengers on international flights and a six-percent price increase for cargo. The increase is effective beginning today.

Garuda Airlines Public Relations chief, (Aufar), said the government has approved the airline's increase of its international flight fares in accordance with decisions reached at the recently concluded International Air Travel Association (IATA) meeting in Geneva.

The increase in fares will only affect those passengers taking the airline's flights to Abu Dhabi, Jeddah, Cairo and Riyadh. Such increases are due to the Gulf crisis and the payment of insurance. He said the airline's international fare increases will be revoked once the situation in the Gulf returns to normal.

Suharto Receives Iranian Vice President 5 Sep

BK0509072290 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Iranian Vice President Reza Amrollahi, who is concurrently president of the International Atomic Energy Association, was received by President Suharto at Bina Graha Palace in Jakarta this morning. He was accompanied by the National Atomic Energy Board director general, Jali Ahimsa. Besides conveying Iranian President Rafsanjani's greetings to President Suharto, he also presented the outcome of the International Atomic Energy Association conference which is linked to the development of the nuclear sector in developing nations.

Speaking to newsmen after meeting the president, Reza Amrollahi stressed the importance of bilateral cooperation among South-South nations. He said numerous developing nations are currently utilizing their national resources for mutual benefit. According to the Iranian vice president, developing nations should protect their natural resources and bilateral cooperation among South-South nations should be further improved.

Reza Amrollahi will visit several infrastructural industries, particularly the nuclear-based industries and other technological centers with a view toward promoting possible bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Laos

Clandestine Radio on Student Protests in Europe

BK0209062590 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0700 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Summary] "Dear listeners, the radio of the Government for the Liberation of the Lao Nation would like to inform you that Lao students who have been sent by the (?communist) Lao Government to study in the socialist countries in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union began staging a protest on 19 July 1990 in Warsaw, the capital of Poland, to demand genuine independence and democracy. The protest may continue for several weeks."

It has been reported that at 0700 on 19 July, 27 Lao students in Poland led by Bounthan Thammavong, the beloved son of Lao Minister of Culture Thongsing Thammavong, held a rally in front of the Lao Embassy in Warsaw to demand that true independence and democracy be restored in Laos. The protest against the odious regime of Kaysone is similar to that staged by Chinese students in Beijing in May last year. The protest has already dragged on for many days in front of the Lao Embassy in Warsaw. "During the protest, the Polish Government rendered support to the protesting Lao students by sending some important leaders to look after them, including providing them with food, medicine, and other facilities."

At 1130 on that day, Mr. Khouansouk Sai-gnalat, secretary of the Lao Embassy in Warsaw, "who is 100 percent Vietnamese sent to control the Lao ambassador there," came out to meet the students.

On 20 July, 15 Lao student representatives in Czechoslovakia arrived in Warsaw to join the protesting students. At 1000 on that day, an (?NBC) television correspondent and other news reporters came to the protest site to interviews the students.

On 22 July, many (?mass organizations) in Warsaw said that the protesting Lao students would be allowed to issue statements on their radio programs and newspapers. The Polish Red Cross Society also gave blankets and food supplies to the protesting students.

With support from (?Polish) students, on 28 July a rally was staged by the Lao students in front of the Vietnamese Embassy with the participation of many international students.

"In the meantime, the Lao service of Radio Asia in Paris gave extensive coverage of the protest and called for public support by the Warsaw students."

On 25 July, Phoumma Thammachak proposed that the Restoration Committee be set up in France to render logistical support to the protesting students in Poland. At the same time, a number of Lao students from the Soviet Union arrived in Warsaw to joint the protest. On 26 July, some Lao nationals from Paris traveled to Warsaw to give material and moral support to the students. On 27 July, 30 representatives of Lao students and nationals in France arrived in Warsaw to join the protest rally in front of the Vietnamese Embassy on 28 July. Also in Paris on 28 July, some 100 representatives of many Lao organizations held a meeting in support of the Warsaw protest.

On 5 (?August), Lao students (?in Paris) staged a rally some 50 meters from the Lao Embassy. However, no Lao diplomats came out of the embassy to accept their petition.

On 6 August, some 230 Lao students in Czechoslovakia held rallies in front of the Lao and Vietnamese Embassies in Prague in support of their counterparts in Warsaw.

Students Issue 'Appeal'

BK0209102890 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0700 GMT 1 Sep 90

["Appeal of the Federation of Lao Students in Eastern Europe to all Lao Compatriots at Home and Abroad"; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. At present, the situation in the world is changing rapidly, especially in such East European countries as Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria, Romania, and many republics in the Soviet Union. In the past, these countries were ruled under the communist system. However, no longer able to tolerate the numerous hardships and difficulties and all-around restrictions in the economic, political, and cultural fields, the people, workers, and students in those countries rose up to fight against the dictatorial and nepotistic communist system and have managed to totally defeat their communist rulers. At present, these countries are building their economic, political, and cultural foundations with genuine independence and democracy. We, the Lao students studying in Eastern Europe, have vividly witnessed these changes and believe that such changes, if introduced in our country, will greatly benefit our national construction and development.

We are deeply concerned with the destiny of our country. We realize that Laos belongs to all Lao people, not only to a particular political party. We realize that the current ruling political system in Laos has been plagued with nepotism which serves to obstruct our national construction and development, thereby bringing more severe hardships to the people. Why have our Lao people, who have capabilities and knowledge—be they farmers or cabinet members—had to face such severe hardships and shortages in their lives? Why does our country lack the progress and prosperity that prevail in other countries?

2. At present, Laos lacks independence both economically and politically. This development is very dangerous to the survival of our nation. We can see that the present Laos does not belong to the Lao people. It is a colony of another country. The aspiration of our entire people is to see that Laos belongs to the Lao people and that our Lao people are able to choose our own Lao-style system of administration and to elect our own leaders who must be Lao nationals and remain genuinely faithful to the Lao nation and people. Our leaders must be able to bring progress and prosperity to our country and to improve the living conditions of our people.

The current Lao ambassador to Poland—Mr. Nousai Sitthisai—was a former deputy minister of industry and trade. He has served as Lao ambassador to this country for two years so far. We do not understand why the Lao Government has appointed him as our ambassador to this country despite the fact that he lacks knowledge in foreign languages and international affairs. He still knows nothing even after being here for two years. Moreover, he has abused his status and (?lacks understanding of) human relations in dealing with the embassy personnel and Lao students here. He does not know how to solve problems in his work. More serious still, he has devoted more time to his family than to government work despite the fact that his wife is only (?a typist) at the embassy. He has abused his diplomatic status for personal gains. He never pays attention to the welfare of Lao students. He only knows how to take, but not to give.

We, the Lao students in Poland, (?do not know very much about) his past life. However, we are interested to know how Mr. Nousai Sitthisai carried out his duty as a deputy minister in recent years. After serving as ambassador to Poland only for two years, he has accumulated a great deal of (?wealth) for himself. We propose that the government conduct an investigation into his work and recall him. The longer he stays here, the more money the government will lose.

In addition, we, the Lao students and all Lao nationals, would like to have freedom in carrying out our activities. So why has the government appointed a Vietnamese national to serve as first secretary at the Lao Embassy in Poland? He is Mr. (Khouanphet Sai-gnalat). His presence here has prevented the embassy from carrying out activities with full freedom. All activities of the embassy are subject to scrutiny by the Vietnamese Embassy. We strongly protest this situation and demand that the government reconsider his status and (?recall him home). We, the Lao students, would like a democratic atmosphere to fully permeate work at the Lao Embassy so that it will have genuine independence and freedom in carrying out political, economic, social, and cultural activities.

[Signed] Mr. Bounthan Thammavong, acting on behalf of the Federation of Lao Students in Poland

Make Demands on Vietnamese

BK0309094090 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0700 GMT 1 Sep 90

["Content of appeal" by Lao students in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, East Germany, Yugoslavia, Soviet Union, and Romania, at demonstration held in front of Lao Embassy in Warsaw on 19 July 1990—read by announcer]

[Text] Following the recent great changes in Europe, many countries in Eastern Europe have overthrown the communist system—a system which has been proved (?inefficient) and impractical. At present, those countries are striving to build and develop a democratic political system. Their goal has been to achieve democracy in the true sense of the word. We, Lao students, who have now been studying in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, East Germany, Romania, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union, feel that our country should also effect the same change.

In our Lao homeland, the communist Stalinist system (?has continued to exist), thus obstructing economic and political development. We have now come to clearly understand why we—the entire Lao people—have failed to achieve success in realizing our aspirations. It is the Vietnamese aggressors [words indistinct] who have stood in the way of our progress. They have plundered everything from our homeland. They have completely destroyed our freedom, independence, and democracy. The Vietnamese have shifted the Lao boundary at will. In 1990, they employed aircraft [words indistinct] to drop chemical bombs and spray yellow rain on our Lao villages. As a result, as many as 15,000 Lao people have been displaced, 3,000 have been wounded, and 2,000 others are missing. The population of Laos is only 3.8 million.

Moreover, the Vietnamese have continued to drop bombs and spray toxic chemicals on our Lao villages. All this is in line with the ambition of the Hanoi government to (?eliminate) and annex Laos. At present, there still remain in Laos more than 70,000 Vietnamese soldiers serving this evil policy. But, since these Vietnamese soldiers do not wear military uniforms, nobody can tell which are civilians and which are soldiers. (?Disguised as civilians), they have tried to deceive the world public. Only our Lao people are well aware of the fact that Laos is now full of Vietnamese and that these Vietnamese have sabotaged our Lao country.

In view of this fact, we—all Lao students—would like to make the following demands:

1. We strongly demand that the Vietnamese and their associates be promptly and unconditionally withdrawn from Laos under the (?control) and assistance of the United Nations;
2. We demand genuine democracy; and
3. We demand a multiparty political system.

We, therefore, have the great honor of calling on you to support us by cooperating and assisting us in order that we may realize our ideals. Thank you.

Urge 'Cooperation'

BK0509143790 (Clandestine) Radio Station of the Government for Liberation of the Lao Nation in Lao 0700 GMT 1 Sep 90

["Appeal" of the Committee in Support of the Federation of Students Struggling for Independence and Democracy for Lao people throughout the world; issued in Paris on 24 July 1990]

[Text] Respected and beloved compatriots: An event of historic significance occurred in Warsaw, Poland on 19 July 1990 when [Lao] students studying in the Eastern European countries unilaterally rose up to stage a protest against the current ruling dictatorial regime in Laos. The protest was aimed at launching a struggle for independence and democracy for Laos and, at the same time, at appealing for support from all Lao compatriots throughout the world. That is why this committee has been set up to revive the life [of our country]. Any compatriots wishing to render support to this great event of historic significance may send donations to the committee in accordance with detailed information provided in the attached bulletin printed in French.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to urge all Lao associations, organizations, Buddhist temples, clergymen, politicians, students, and compatriots of all ethnic tribes to contribute efforts, make sacrifices, and unite into a strong and cohesive force to launch peaceful movements (?in support of the protest) to restore independence and democracy to Laos. I hope that our compatriots will render your cooperation to our committee. [words indistinct]

With high respect and regards.
Paris, 24 July 1990
[Signed] Bounma Thammachak, chairman of the Committee in Support of the Federation of Students Struggling for Independence and Democracy for Laos.

Philippines

Bases Council To Propose 3-Year U.S. Pullout

HK0109092790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 1 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

[By Danny Petilla]

[Text] The Executive-Legislative Bases Council is set to recommend a gradual pullout of United States military personnel from Philippines within three years after the bases treaty expires in September 1991. The council wrapped up its hearings and deliberations yesterday.

The council, which held 24 sessions, was formed by the President Aquino to study alternative uses for the bases when and if the Americans leave.

The administration is currently engaged in negotiations on the United States' continued use of six military facilities in the Philippines after the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement expires in 1991. The council was formed to give the Philippine side a better bargaining position.

Jose Abueva, University of the Philippines president and council chairman, said in a press conference that the council's proposals will be submitted to Ms. Aquino, Senate president Jovito R. Salonga and Speaker Ramon V. Mitra on Oct. 4. Until then, Abueva said, the recommendations will be fine-tuned.

Abueva said he expected the government to carry out the council's recommendations before the bases agreement expired on Sept. 16, 1991.

Pampanga Gov. Bren Z. Guiao, chairman of the council's committee on the conversion program for Clark air base, said a gradual pullout by the Americans was recommended because an immediate withdrawal "is just not possible."

"We might not use the facilities there if we opt for immediate pullout in 1991," Guiao said.

Sen. Teofisto Guingona, one of the council members, said the council had to finalize its plans on the alternative uses of the bases in view of the coming bases talks. "We will have no bargaining power (during the bases talks) if the other side sees that we do not have the alternative uses," Guingona said.

The second round of exploratory talks on the bases will be held in Manila tentatively on Sept. 10-14.

Trade Undersecretary Ernesto M. Ordonez, chairman of the committee on the conversion program for military facilities in Metro Manila, said the government will sell in the next few months some 660 hectares of land inside Fort Bonifacio in Makati, Villamor air base in Pasay City and nine other military camps. Ordonez said land parcels currently being occupied by military personnel who hold land rights to them, will be exempted.

He added that an Air Force strike wing will be retained in Villamor to defend Metro Manila against attack.

Ordonez said the land sale was expected to generate about P105 billion. Of the amount, P60 billion will be used to convert and develop Clark in Angeles City and Subic naval base in Zambales into industrial centers. He added that Camp Crame in Quezon City, headquarters of the Constabulary, will be kept intact for the use of the Philippine National Police, which will soon be formed.

Ordonez also said that Camp Aguinaldo across Crame will be converted into a Pentagon-type complex to serve as the nerve center of the Armed Forces.

Guiao said part of the Clark area will be converted into a civil aviation complex while a 500-hectare part of it will be developed into an industrial estate.

Guingona said the Subic naval complex will be privatized, or sold in lots to private individuals or companies, which is also part of the bases conversion plan.

Guiao said the conversion of the Clark area into an industrial zone would generate employment for around 200,000 Filipinos in the period 1991 and 2005 [as published]. Guiao said the council has recommended contingency measures to avert possible economic dislocation to some 31,000 Filipinos now employed by the U.S. military in case of a bases pullout.

Meanwhile, a militant labor group said it will hold daily demonstrations throughout September to demand the bases pullout. The Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU—1 May movement] said the month-long campaign will be joined by the National Union of Students in the Philippines (NUSP) and the Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng Maralitang Tagalunsod (KPML) [United Congress of Urban Poor].

In a press conference, the KMU chairman for Metro Manila, Leto Villar, said the protest actions will be held in front of U.S. government facilities and offices in Metro Manila as well as at other venues "that are symbols of U.S. control over the country's economy."

Union Prepares Offensive for U.S. Bases Removal

HK0309034590 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 3 Sep 90 p 1

[By Arnold E. Belleza]

[Text] The Kilusang Mayo Uno [1 May Movement]-National Capital Region (KMU-NCR) is preparing for its "September Offensive," calling for the removal of the American military facilities in the country.

KMU-NCR chairman Leto Villar said in a press briefing the militant labor group's action is a joint undertaking with the Metro Manila chapters of the National Union of Students of the Philippines and the Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng Maralitang Tagalunsod. "It will be characterized by daily protests at selected U.S. government facilities and offices in Metro Manila and other venues that are symbols of U.S. control over the country's economy," Mr Villar said.

Workers from at least 300 factories in Metro Manila are expected to raise picket lines in protest. The time frame for the mass action is still undetermined.

Mr Villar stressed the "urgent need" to inform the people of the role of the U.S. bases in preserving the "U.S. imperialist domination of the economic and political system" of the Philippines and other Asian nations.

He said the nation's current woes, including the impending rise in oil prices and basic commodities, threats of a right-wing coup or the probable reemergence of martial law and the issue of the nation's foreign debt are "directly spawned" by this intervention.

"Filipinos must transform their nationalist sentiments into concrete militant action" against the bases, he said.

Ramos Reports on Measures Against Coupists

HK0309033790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 3 Sep 90 p 6

[By correspondent Rolando Pascual]

[Text] Of the 2,759 participants in the December 1989 attempted coup, 1,806 or 56% are stil being investigated while 753 or 37% have been "restored to duty status" and 200 or 7% are still at large, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos told Congress. He said 28 top rebel military leaders are already undergoing trial in various military courts.

In the two attempted coups in 1987, he said, at least 51 participants had been convicted and sentenced from six to 20 years imprisonment at hard labor. A total of 103 soldiers had been acquitted while 279 more were undergoing trial.

"The Armed Forces has organised 27 investigation teams to gather evidence against those involved in this coup attempt", Ramos said in a House appropriations committee hearing where he presented his department's P28.03-billion [28.03-billion-Philippine peso] proposed budget. It is the second highest department budgetary allocation in the 1991 national budget submitted to Congress by Malacanang.

Ramos also said that nine of the 19 arrested rebel officers who led the Aug. 28, 1987 coup attempt had been convicted and sentenced to eight years in jail. The list is headed by Lt. Col. Reynaldo Vinuya.

But key leaders Brig. Gen. Federico Pasion and Lt. Col. Eduardo Kapunan have yet to be "reprimanded". The rest in the list had been demoted.

Lt. Col. Domingo Bayan, who heads the list of officers convicted for the Jan. 27, 1987 coup attempt, was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment at hard labor.

Ramos admitted that the military rebels are the "immediate threst to national security." "The communist insurgency is still the long-term and enduring threat to our security", Ramos said, adding that to date, 4,398 barangays nationwide are still infiltrated and 2,141 are influenced. But he noted the steady yearly decline in the number of rebel-influenced barangays.

"The series of coup attempts were plain naked grabs at power," Ramos stressed.

The department aims to contain the military rebels by the end of 1991, Ramos said.

Military Reveals Rebel Soldiers' Coup Strategy

HK0109091590 Quezon City MALAYA in English 1 Sep 90 pp 1, 7

[By Joel Dizon and Chit Estella]

[Text] Baguio City—Rebel soldiers will not attack military camps in Metro Manila but will concentrate their offensive on Malacanang when they mount another coup attempt, the military said Friday.

In a radio message to commanding officers of AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] combat units and police stations monitored in this city, AFP headquarters said the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan [RAM—Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance]-Soldiers of the Filipino People [SFP] and the Young Officers Union [YOU] have described attacks on Camps Aguinaldo and Crame as "counter-productive" since it "would only alienate sympathizers and supporters inside camps."

The message included other details of the RAM coup plot which the AFP had earlier told newsmen it had thwarted by launching the offensive against renegade Army Col. Alexander Noble in Agusan del Sur.

(In Manila, President Aquino expressed "complete confidence" in Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos whom the YOU has charged with plotting a coup against the government. Ramos has denied the accusation.

(Mrs. Aquino also disregarded insinuations by rightist rebels that government forces might be behind the recent spate of bombings, saying the military is on the trail of some of the bombers.

("The manner in which the bombings have been done makes early apprehension of the culprits difficult," she said, referring to observations that the military has so far failed to make a single arrest.)

Quoting from a security memorandum of the AFP General headquarters' intelligence branch (J-2) which reportedly intercepted a phone call from the Visayas to Manila by a rebel leader who goes by the alias "Choy de las Ajas," the message said cashiered Lt. Col. Gregorio B. Honasan and about 1,000 followers are hiding in a military camp in Luzon.

Honasan has reportedly received logistical support from several unnamed businessmen in Makati.

The message said RAM members have infiltrated the AFP and INP [Integrated National Police] ranks and are awaiting orders to strike.

The "Leadership core" of the RAM and YOU, it said, is in the Philippine Army, with rebel forces reorganized into three major divisions—the Research and Study Group, Socio-economic Section, and the Tactical and Strategic Group.

The AFP headquarters said military rebels in Luzon and Visayas are expected to engage in diversionary activities to draw government forces away from the siege on Salog, Agusan del Sur where renegade Col. Alexander Noble continues to hold out.

Activities in Metro Manila, including the present rash of bombings, have been assigned to Honasan's group while ex-Cagayan Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo is in charge of Northern Luzon, it said.

Should the AFP further escalate its offensive against Noble, the RAM and YOU will carry out their plan to kidnap ranking military officers, especially those involved in the operations against the renegade colonel, the radio message said.

Under the plot, military rebels, with the support of some politicians, will also declare a separate Republic of Mindanao, the radio message said. Sympathizers are to paralyze Mindanao by knocking out the Maria Cristina Tower and switchyard. While all these are in progress, another group to be led by Lt. Col. Victor Erfe will take control of the Central Bank in Davao City.

Strangely, the message claimed that RAM-KSP [Soldiers of the Filipino People] leaflets that were distributed to Manila media last Aug. 15 in Camp Aguinaldo were not authentic and bore the forged signature of Honasan.

The AFP headquarters ordered field unit commanders to immediately relay to Camp Aguinaldo reports of unauthorized troop movements in order it can identify "probable regions of destabilization." Commanders in Mindanao were ordered to poll their troops and determine their sentiments regarding the operations against Noble.

Earlier, Maj. Gen. Cesar Nazareno, PC [Philippine Constabulary]-INP, advised field commanders to monitor the ammunition loads of their troops.

Units not actively engaged in any offensive operations were told to reduce their load to "basic ammunitions" and for their commanding officers to keep all "combat loads" under lock and key. A foot soldier is issued a basic load of 150 rounds of M-16 bullets. Quantities above this and armaments of higher ordnance are considered "combat loads."

Bomb Found, Detonated Near Malacanang

HK0509093390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] A C-4 type bomb was detonated by members of the bomb disposal unit of the PSG [Presidential Security Group] near the Nagtahan Bridge. The site, which was close to Malacanang, was rocked by the explosion. Earlier, it was reported that the bomb was placed in a box which was handed to a family servant by two unidentified men. When the maid tried to give the box to her employer, he refused to accept it and told her to throw it in the garbage bin. Because of the suspicious movements of the two men who delivered the box and who were seen getting into a car, residents in the area informed the authorities.

Communist Rebels Said Killed in Agusan del Sur

HK0309034390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 3 Sep 90 p 19

[By Mike Crismundo]

[Text] Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur—Two New People's Army (NPA) rebels were killed and scores of other rebels were wounded in a fierce gunbattle between rebels and Constabulary soldiers Saturday [1 September] at sitio Tumahong, barangay Sta. Cruz, Rosario town, about 23 kilometers south from the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] headquarters here, a PC report yesterday said.

Seized at the scene of encounter were two caliber .38 revolvers, two shotguns, four fragmentation grenades, cash worth P2.690, medical kit, food, ammunition and anti-government documents.

Lt. Col. Bartolome V. Baluyot, Agusan del Sur PC-INP commander, in his flash report to Recom 10 PC-INP chief Brig. Gen. Hermogenes Peralta Jr., said that a civilian guide whose identity was withheld was also seriously wounded.

The Headquarters Support Command led by Baluyot, the 414th PC Company under Maj. Rogelio Bacayana, and the 149th PC company under Capt. Francisco Camorongan, engaged the rebels in a fierce firefight for almost one hour.

Commander Israel and his men were conducting monthly revolutionary tax collection from the farmers before the gunbattle took place, the provincial commander added.

Constabulary soldiers led by Lieutenants Rico Tome and Melchor Bedasua pursued the rebels toward the boundary of Surigao del Sur.

'Government Inaction' on Rebel Returnees Viewed

HK0109090390 Quezon City MALAYA in English 1 Sep 90 p 3

[Text] Sulan, Sultan Kudarat.—Cotabato Gov. Rosario Diaz has deplored government inaction on problems among rebel returnees in Mindanao.

During the Regional Peace and Order Council meeting held here recently, Diaz said the guidelines in implementing the National Rehabilitation and Development Program [NRDP] are not being followed. She deplored the delay in the release of funds and other needed assistance from NRDP which she said has resulted in the delay in putting up resettlement areas for the rebel returnees, most of whom come from the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF], the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, MNLF-Reformist group. A few come from the New People's Army.

Under the NRDP, rebel returnees are given cash assistance, livelihood opportunities, and resettlement areas. She said that under the present setup, rebels returning to the fold of the law can only be resettled four or more months after their surrender, leaving them alone with no land to till. "We have to iron out the problem of our rebel returnees so as not to make them return to where they came from," Diaz said.

Government, Panel Discuss Cease-Fire Proposal

HK0509110990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] The government and a multisectorial panel discussed this morning the details of a limited cease-fire proposal between government troops and communist rebels. The meeting was held at the Philippine Heart Center building in Quezon City. The government panel comprised of Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa, and Press Secretary Tomas Buddy Gomez III, while the multisectorial panel was made up of Senator Wigberto Tanada, Congressman Bonifacio Gillego, and representatives from other sectors. They discussed the cease-fire which could be enforced in Metro Manila and in places hit by the 16 July earthquake. However, Secretary Ramos announced that the cease-fire between the government and the rebel soldiers was not tackled. Here are the statements by Press Secretary Tomas Buddy Gomez and Congressman Bonnie Gillego:

[Begin recording in English, in progress] [Gomez] ...had become apparent that some details have to be threshed out. For this purpose the group agreed to form a joint working committee composed of Senator Wigberto Tanada, Congressman Bonifacio Gillego, Secretary Franklin Drilon, Secretary Edilberto de Jesus, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] General Renato de Villa, and Dr Maria Serena Diokno. A third meeting has been called for next week.

[Gillego] We would be discussing the details of the general discussions that we have so far held, like the coverage in terms of specific areas; the kind of military operations that we would like to limit the military coup in terms of the suspension of hostilities in these particular areas; and also the monitoring mechanisms that will be composed of NGO's [non-governmental organizations], the churches, and the local government units. [end recording]

Meanwhile, at a meeting of the Cluster E group of the cabinet led by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon and the multisectorial group cease-fire advocates headed by Senator Wigberto Tanada, it was agreed that a joint working group be formed to discuss details of a proposed cease-fire in the country.

At present, the government and the National Democratic Front have both expressed a readiness to observe a cease-fire in areas devastated by the earthquake. According to Senator Tanada, the cabinet group and the cease-fire for peace advocates did not discuss a proposal to include rebel soldiers in the talks. According to AFP

Chief of staff General Renato de Villa, this followed a RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] decision to take back an offer to conduct peace talks.

[Begin Tanada recording in English] In our second meeting, we decided to first tackle the limited cease-fire which has already been declared by the CPP-NPA-NDF [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front] for the areas affected by the earthquake and Metro Manila. So, we decided to focus on that because that is something that has already been done and is in place insofar as the other side is concerned.

Well, this morning, the government told us that they were accepting this in principle, that there will be this limited cease-fire or suspension of hostilities in this area. [end recording]

That was Senator Wigberto Tanada speaking at a news conference in the Senate.

Meanwhile, Senator Edgardo Angara announced that a general amnesty should be granted by the president following peace talks between the government and armed groups fighting the government.

Secret MNLF Meetings on Gulf Crisis Reported

HK0509103690 Quezon City MALAYA in English 5 Sep 90 p 7

[By Mila Velasquez]

[Text] Jolo—Small Muslim groups, reportedly belonging to the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF], have been holding secret assemblies in this province and planning what course of action to take in case the Gulf crisis escalates into a full-scale war. The groups, including student activists have also put up streamers in this town and other MNLF-controlled towns expressing support for Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, reports said.

The military ignored the actions, saying it was normal for Muslim groups to react that way because of their affinity to the Middle East where their "brothers and sisters in Islam" live.

A source from the MNLF camp said Iraq had all reasons to use force against the oil-rich kingdom. He said Iraq's annexation of Kuwait was long overdue as the problem goes beyond just theft of land, oil and money. The MNLF source said for years Kuwait has been westernized, in the process abandoning its Islam ways and culture.

Thailand

Coverage Continues on Iraq-Kuwait Situation

Former Foreign Minister on Bases

BK0409040190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Sep 90 p 5

[Letter from Thanat from readers' letters column 'Postbag']

[Text] Sir: I write to protest the reference in the POST's August 29 editorial that... "in principle the US military can use Thai military facilities under the longstanding Thanat-Rusk accord, but that permission has to be sought on a case-by-case basis..."

This is sheer fabrication and so is the attribution to some ghost officials. None of them, if they exist, would be "moronic" enough to make such an affirmation because they can read from the document, more exactly the Thanat-Rusk joint communique, not an "accord," that it contains no such mention. [Signed] Thanat Khoman

Supplies to Refugees Approved

BK0109021890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Sep 90 p A2

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday agreed to "donate" relief supplies, including two tonnes of rice, to foreigners stranded in Jordan in exchange for that country's help in repatriating Thai workers, Phonthep Techphaibun, the government's deputy spokesman said.

Thailand has already flown food to Jordan that was specifically intended for the some 2,500 Thai nationals stranded there after fleeing Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait. But the Jordanian government withheld the supplies saying they should be distributed to all foreign refugees awaiting repatriation.

Phonthep said Thai refugees would receive their share of the food donated to Jordan. He also said relief to Thais would be sent in the form of cash.

About 1,500 workers are stranded at Jordan's border with Iraq. Another 1,000 workers are in Jordan's capital of Amman waiting to be flown home.

Phonthep added that food was still available in Jordan, which has become a temporary transit centre for thousands of foreigners who streamed in following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2.

Thai Airways International is providing one flight a day from Amman to transport Thai workers home. Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan said the government has asked Jordanian Airlines to help evacuate the rest. About 50 Thai are still in Kuwait and 2,000 are in Iraq.

In an another issue related to the Gulf crisis, Subin denied that Thailand had allowed American forces to use the U-Taphao air base as a military staging area for the

US military buildup in the Middle East. Subin said reports based on information from US military sources were the result of a "misunderstanding."

Cabinet Briefed on Evacuations

BK0409152990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] The Thai Government will provide the Jordanian Government with a gift of two tons of foodstuffs, partly rice, in return for its goodwill. As for help to the Thai workers, they will be given money instead of food as there is a shortage of food in Amman. [sentence as heard]

Reporting on the Cabinet meeting today, Phonthep Techaphaibun, deputy spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, said the prime minister expressed his concern for the welfare of Thai workers in Kuwait and Iraq. He asked the foreign minister to report on the evacuation of Thai workers and was told there are about 27 Thai workers left in Kuwait, about 650 who have fled through Iraq to the Jordanian border, and 800 who are at the evacuation centers in Jordan. There are about 2,000 workers now stranded in Iraq. The government is arranging for an evacuation of those workers on a voluntary basis. The problem of the Thai workers is there is food shortages. The deputy spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office said that about one ton of food sent to the Jordanian airport has already been distributed to Thai workers.

Up to this point a total of 4,683 workers have been evacuated. The Interior Ministry has been looking for jobs for those who returned. The ministry called a meeting of 158 construction contractors with a demand for workers. They said there are 4,900 jobs available for carpenters, masons and tinsmiths, and 3,000 jobs for accountants and general workers. That means all workers who have returned will have work.

Phonthep said the prime minister thanked the Foreign, Communications, and Interior Ministries for speedily tackling the problem with the best coordination.

Paper Fears War

BK0409151590 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 4 Sep 90 p 8

[Editorial: "War Could Break Out"]

[Text] September 9 will be a very important day as the two world leaders, President George Bush of the United States and President Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union, will hold a summit in Helsinki for talks on the Middle East crisis. Whether they will discuss military measures to deal with President Saddam Husayn of Iraq remains to be seen. More reinforcements have been sent from the United States to the Middle East. The number of troops has reached 100,000 now, not to mention those from 22 other countries.

The United States will have to think carefully about any plan for attacking Iraq in order to force it out of Kuwait because such a strike would dramatically increase the possibility of war. It is not known how other Muslim states would react to it. What is most threatening is that they could twist the issue into a holy war against the United States, which is already regarded by several Muslim countries as supporting the Israeli aggression against Muslim states.

The United States will also have to strike an understanding with the Soviet Union because the Soviet Union has soldiers in the Iraqi Armed Forces acting as advisers on the use of weapons bought from the Soviet Union. Any misunderstanding could lead to friction. Although the Soviet Union joined in the UN Security Council's voting for economic sanction against Iraq, that does not necessarily mean the Soviet Union would approve a U.S. full-scale war with Iraq.

The fate of Iraq therefore rests with the summit of the two leaders—what kind of agreement they reach.

The fact that it did not rush into any kind of a decision on Iraq indicates that the United States wants its action, once taken, to be correct and a decision supported by the world. However, it is unlikely that the United States and its allies will do nothing before pulling out their forces from the area, as they have already invested a large amount of forces and expense on the crisis. It would be horrible if war broke out in the Middle East because Iraq would fight like a cornered dog, and might therefore resort to the use of unconventional weapons, such as chemical weapons. In that case, many lives would be lost.

We do not see the light of peace in the Middle East at all at present because of the tough stance adopted by Saddam Husayn.

Subin Discusses ASEAN Tour, Jakarta Meeting

BK0409153990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 4 Sep 90

[Text] Newly-appointed Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan is preparing to visit other ASEAN countries to get acquainted with their foreign ministers. He is scheduled to begin his trip on 7 or 8 September. Subin said he had assigned Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi to fix the schedule of his visit to Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, and the Philippines.

Touching on the Cambodian issue, the foreign minister said the Foreign Ministry is studying the resolution on Cambodia by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. This resolution gives a better chance for settlement of the problem. Regarding the upcoming peace talks among the four Khmer factions in Jakarta, the foreign minister said the four Khmer factions had confirmed their participation in the meeting. Contacts are being made with Phnom Penh regime leader Hun Sen in this connection. Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, in his capacity as chairman of the Paris international meeting on Cambodia, will also join the meeting. The meeting is expected to make some progress because at present all Khmer factions are more flexible.

Cabinet Approves Burmese Holding Center Plan

BK0109043090 Bangkok THE NATION in English
1 Sep 90 p A3

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved the National Security Council's [NSC's] proposal to set up a temporary holding centre for exiled Burmese students, informed government sources said.

The decision indicates a departure from Thailand's longstanding objection to establishing border camps for Burmese students and dissidents. The Burmese military regime has repeatedly urged the Thai Government to oppose the idea.

Also approved yesterday was the revocation of a September 1988 Cabinet decision which called for the forced repatriation of Burmese students taking refuge on Thai soil.

The Interior Ministry, said the sources, has been assigned to determine a site for the camp and to ensure that students restricted to the centre are prevented from participating in political activities which could hurt the currently warm relations between Thailand and Burma. Only private aid or religious organizations will be permitted to provide assistance to students in the centre. The Interior Ministry will be responsible for selecting and screening aid agencies to operate in the confined area, sources said.

The involvement of international organizations in giving aid to students at the centre could prolong its existence and act as a magnet drawing more Burmese refugees into Thailand.

The Cabinet also assigned the NSC and the Interior Ministry to work out measures to deal with non-student Burmese dissidents who are staying illegally in Thailand.

The sources said the National Security Council (NSC) submitted the proposal after repeated requests made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and following strong international criticism against Thailand's deportation of Burmese students. The NSC, after a series of consultations with other Thai government agencies, came to the conclusion that Thailand's former policy on exiled students would not resolve the problem and Thailand would only face more international attacks for human rights violations.

Thousands of Burmese civilians, students, and monks fled to Thailand when army generals led by Gen [General] Saw Maung staged a coup in September 1988 to forcibly quell months of pro-democracy unrest.

Officials Welcome Chawalit Senate Resignation

BK0109015690 Bangkok THE NATION in English
1 Sep 90 p A2

[From the "Political Desk"]

[Text] Government leaders and members of the House of Representatives welcomed former deputy prime minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut's resignation as senator, which they saw as a necessary step for the general's return to national politics. The resignation coincided with the proposed establishment of a new political party believed to have been organized by Chawalit's close associates.

Gen [General] Chawalit's resignation was presented to the Secretariat of the National Assembly by his aide, Col [Colonel] Sonchai Montriwat, yesterday morning. Wan Chansu, Senate speaker, confirmed he had received Chawalit's resignation but said the general did not provide any reasons for quitting. The Senate speaker said he was told by Chawalit on several occasions that he wanted to resign.

House Speaker Pancha Kesonthong said Chawalit's resignation signified that the former army chief intended to join a political party. He pointed out that parliamentary regulations prohibit senators from affiliating themselves with political parties. Pancha said he was told that several other senators also planned to quit. But he would not say who they were or whether their planned resignations were in any way linked to Chawalit's.

The Senate is comprised primarily of senior military and police officers and civil servants. Chawalit had been the Senate's chief whip until he resigned from the Chatchai Administration in June.

A group of unidentified persons have recently applied for registration of a new political party, the Seri Prachathipatai, with the Interior Ministry. The application is being considered by the political party registrar. The new party is believed to have been organized by Chawalit's close associates, including Gen Phat Akkhanibut, who said Chawalit had agreed to assume the party leadership.

Prime Minister [PM] Chatchai Chunhawan, commenting on Chawalit's resignation, said it was a good sign for national politics and that he would lend his full support to his former deputy in any way he could. Chatchai, when asked whether he considered Chawalit's party a rival to his Chat Thai Party, said: "How can I compete (with Chawalit)? I'm already 70 years old."

The prime minister would not say whether he would run in the next general election.

MP [member of parliament] Trairong Suwankhiri, a senior executive of the Democrat Party, described Chawalit's resignation as good news and said he was glad the general had at last decided to become a "true politician who could stand on his own feet without having to cling to (his military past)." He said it was a good sign for the country's democratic system that more and more retired military officers and civil servants are offering to serve the public through national politics.

"The people will decide who to pick as their PMs in the House of Representatives," he said. "But I must tell those retired government officials who plan to run in a general election in southern provinces that they stand very little chance of winning because southern people, unlike people in other regions, prefer young people," Trairong said.

Southern residents tend to see retired government officials who seek political office in an election there as insincere and that they prefer young politicians who devote their lives to serving the public, according to the MP.

Chawalit is said to command strong support from Muslims in the five southernmost provinces because he is credited with initiating the Harappan Baru (or New Hope) development programme aimed at improving the living standards of poverty-stricken Muslims.

The speculation led some political observers to predict the political party led by Chawalit would emerge as a rival to the Democrat Party, which has its political stronghold in the South.

Opposition MP Dusit Sophitcha (Solidarity-Ubon Ratchathani) said Chawalit had arrived at a point where he must decide whether to re-enter national politics. "It is a make-it-or-break-it decision. He must act now or risk losing all his political clout," he said.

Border Police Raid Chiang Rai Heroin Factory

BK3008160990 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 90

[Text] Third Region Border Patrol Police task forces raided and destroyed a heroin factory of Chinese Haw tribesmen at a hill top of Doi Pha Lang, Tambon Wawi, Mae Suai District, Chiang Rai. The combined land and air operation took about nine hours. After an hour-long gun duel with the suspected heroin producers, the police finally took control of the whole factory.

During the gunfire, a border patrol police officer, Police Master Sergeant Prasoet Sainua, was badly injured at his right ankle.

Police seized 19 boxes of No. 4 heroin weighing a total of 6,100 grams, another type of heroin weighing 500 grams, and 32 pieces of equipment used for production of heroin. The total value of the seized items is 22 million baht.

Vietnam

Nguyen Van Linh Addresses Education Conference

BK0409052790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 3 Sep 90

[Text] The Ministry of Education and Training recently held a conference in Hanoi to train the contingent of active intellectuals currently working and teaching in colleges and advanced schools from Nghe Tinh Province northward in political activity for the 1990-1991 school year. More than 1,000 people attended the conference including school board members, heads of departments and faculties, professors, doctors, and teaching cadres of various colleges and advanced schools. A number of leading cadres and specialists currently assigned to various organs of the ministry were also present.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, called on and addressed the conferees. Comrades Dao Duy Tung, Nguyen Co Thach, Phan Van Khai, Dau Ngoc Xuan, Nguyen Tien Phong, and (Duy Thong) read reports on the political activity drive in the entire education and training sector, especially in colleges and advanced schools.

We now present you Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh's conference address:

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording] Dear Comrades: First of all, on behalf of the party Central Committee and its Political Bureau and Secretariat, I would like to extend my greetings to all of you, to the contingent of professors and teachers, and activists of the various colleges and advanced schools present at this conference. [applause]

I welcome this political activity drive of the contingent of almost a million men and women teachers from college to kindergarten level. I earnestly hope that you will reach unanimity in your perception of the party's viewpoints and thinking and on that basis effect positive changes among cadres, pupils, and students, and satisfactorily fulfill your school tasks in the 1990-1991 school year and in subsequent years.

In light of the resolution of the sixth party congress, in recent years there have been encouraging and commendable changes in education and training. At a time when the entire country continues to face numerous difficulties in the socioeconomic field, education and training have been maintained and consolidated and even developed in some respects. In the course of education reform, all branches and levels of learning have made changes and progress along the line of broadening the scale of their activities, diversifying the forms of their schools and classes, and raising the quality and effectiveness of training, thereby meeting the country's requirements for renovation.

The great majority of teaching cadres and professors at all levels have overcome many difficulties, emulating one another in teaching well and firmly maintaining their quality. Their professionalism has made a decisive contribution to the achievements of the education and training sector and has helped strengthen the people's confidence and respect for teachers. Many schools have scored notable achievements on research in experimental science and on productive labor, thereby contributing to serving production and ensuring the people's livelihood while creating their own capital to help their cadres and personnel overcome difficulties in everyday life. In some places, part of this self-procured capital has been invested to promote education and training.

A correct direction followed by the education and training sector and colleges is to broaden democracy in schools. I have learned that since December 1987, 21 colleges and two advanced schools have conducted elections of presidents. The departments and faculties of many other schools have also held elections to choose their heads. This task should be further promoted for experience and be carried out even more efficiently.

Renovation of the training process and the new scholarship policy have stimulated the students movement for study and training. The majority of our students have good political quality and good virtues. However, we should pay greater attention to their learning and living conditions; at the same time, we should demand that our young friends actively study and train to be revolutionary intellectuals.

Recently, events from inside and outside the country have had adverse impacts on the political and ideological life of our contingent of intellectuals, including the activists currently working in the education and training sector and in various colleges and advanced schools. But the great majority of them have shown their calmness and steadfastness as well as their capacity to tell right from wrong. They have remained confident in the renovation process initiated and led by the party and have actively contributed to party building work and renovating the party leadership and the educational service. Their most evident contribution has been their suggestions to the draft resolution of the eighth plenum of the party Central Committee.

Naturally, we are not satisfied with the achievements already recorded, because many problems in our education and training service have not been solved. These problems are: Our educational system, despite its many achievements, remains underdeveloped in view of our country's present and future demands; the quality and efficiency of education and training are still low; the lives of teachers and students are beset by many difficulties; and the teaching and learning conditions are utterly inadequate.

The renovation undertaking along the socialist path in our country requires personnel of the educational and training services to fulfill very heavy tasks. The experiences gained from many countries indicate that only by giving first priority to efforts to develop a modern educational system, help the people improve their knowledge and bring into full play their talents, promptly acquire and apply mankind's scientific-technological innovations to production, and make the best use of all national potentialities can there be conditions for a country to accelerate its economic development, promptly eradicate poverty, and reach the status of a developed nation.

Therefore, our party and state have ascertained that no matter how serious our difficulties may be, we must resolutely help the educational service overcome its current unhealthy situation. All sectors, echelons, families, and citizens should bear in mind that investment in education means investment in human resource development, which is the most essential and most effective type of investment. Therefore, we should, within our capabilities, give more priority assistance to the educational service. Resolute efforts are needed to eradicate illiteracy, promote level-1 education, and secure quality education at all levels. At the same time, special attention should be given to training skillful and talented people for the nation.

The intelligentsia is a valuable national asset. Teachers of both sexes have the honor and responsibility to form a generation of young intellectuals for the nation. They should share the above-mentioned concepts and requirements set forth by the party Central Committee. Only by so doing can we accelerate the educational development program. It is your duty to form a new generation of people for socialist construction. We all should be deeply imbued with Uncle Ho's teaching that if we want to have socialism, we must have socialist men. By socialist men, we mean people who cultivate socialist ideals and possess good political and ethical quality, who love to work and are eager to make efforts for self-improvement and progress, and who know how to combine theory and practice right in school so that once they graduate they will not be bewildered by real life situations.

I feel very disappointed that our on-the-job training centers like the one in Hoa Binh have ceased to develop. I would like to remind you that along with providing them with formal education, we should teach students how to behave well by showing respect to the old and being nice to the young, obeying parents and older brothers and sisters, giving a helping hand to needy people and those who have nobody to turn to, loving good people and good deeds, and opposing bad elements and wrongdoers.

Today's international background is very complicated. The national socioeconomic situation is still rife with many difficulties. The nation has not yet overcome a socioeconomic crisis. Therefore, I would like to remind our schools of the need to further intensify political and ideological work. Lately there have been indications of unsatisfactory work performance and of project implementation just for form's sake.

No matter how difficult the national situation may be, the contingent of teachers must persistently follow the socialist path that Uncle Ho and our people have pursued for 60 years now. It is necessary for us to thoroughly understand and implement the renovative policies and lines adopted by the party and state, the educational sector, and our schools themselves. We firmly believe that the renovation undertaking will achieve success step by step. It is important for everyone to overcome pessimism, vacillation, and haste, because these things will lead nowhere. Also, it is important to oppose all indications of a wrongful attitude like rejection of the history of the people's revolutionary struggle and the party's leadership role, demands for unlimited freedom and democracy, and so forth. Efforts must be made to develop the fine traditions of our nation, firmly preserve the quality and ethics of socialist intellectuals, and consolidate the people and high school and college students' confidence in and respect for teachers. More than anyone else, teachers must set shining examples, because for students no political or moral lessons can have more power of persuasion than teachers' good examples.

Our state has worked out measures aimed at improving teachers' living conditions. Nonetheless, you are still faced with countless difficulties and hardships in your daily lives. Some of them cannot set their minds at ease while they serve in their teaching profession because they must hold second jobs to make ends meet. Others have called it quits in order to look for other jobs. This is bad.

May I suggest that in addition to greater concern on the part of the state—for example, making payments on schedule, providing satisfactory fringe benefits, and so forth—our schools should create conditions for teachers to earn more income by encouraging them to participate in various production development projects and by opening appropriate vocational training programs. In this way, there will be opportunities for teachers to combine theory with practice as well as to turn out products for sale so they can earn more income and improve their living conditions. Also, it is advisable for schools to organize scientific and technical services in support of local production and the people's daily lives. Both the Ministry of Education and Training and educational bureaus should work out concrete plans for this project implementation.

Finally, on the occasion of the forthcoming opening of the new school year, I would like to convey to all of you here, and through you to all our cadres, teachers, and high school and college students throughout the country, my best wishes for greater achievements. It is my hope that all of you will prove yourselves worthy of the confidence and hope that our party and people have placed in you. [applause] [end recording]

Do Muoi Speech Marks National Day Anniversary

BK0109163590 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 1—Following is the full text of the speech delivered by chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, at Ba Dinh conference hall this morning, Sept. 1st, marking the 45th anniversary of Vietnam's National Day September 2, 1990:

On with the cause of renewal, let us forge ahead united for the victory of socialism and for the welfare and happiness of the people.

Today, our people throughout the country are joyfully celebrating the 45th anniversary of the great August Revolution and the historic National Day of September 2nd, a grand festival of the nation.

On behalf of the Vietnam Communist Party, the Fatherland Front, National Assembly, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, I would like to cordially extend to our combatants and compatriots throughout the country and to overseas Vietnamese the warmest greetings.

I wish also to convey our heartfelt sentiments and regards to the families of war martyrs, war disabled and to those families that have greatly contributed to the revolution.

I would like to most warmly welcome foreign quests whose presence here with us today on his happy occasion constitutes valuable sympathy and support for our people.

This time, we commemorate the August Revolution and the National Day in a year of several great occasions: the 60th founding anniversary of the Vietnam Communist Party, the birth centenary of great president Ho Chi Minh. In today's festive atmosphere, with boundless emotion and gratitude of our whole party, people and Armed Forces turn their thoughts to the fond memory of our respected and beloved Uncle Ho who has dedicated all his life to the great revolutionary cause of the nation.

We also turn our affectionate thoughts to succeeding generations of comrades and compatriots who during the past several decades have sacrificed themselves for national independence, freedom and socialism.

The past 45 years is a period of extremely valiant struggle, and at the same time, a phase of glorious development in the long history of our nation. Such a shining chapter of history was opened by the victory of the August general uprising which gave birth to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The August Revolution put an end to the long night of servitude that lasted almost a century in our country, ushered in a new era for our nation's development, the era of national independence and socialism. Poor people shedding off the shackles of slavery have become the citizens of a free and independent nation, the masters of their own land.

To firmly uphold the fruit of the August Revolution, the party has led our people in victoriously carrying out two protracted wars of resistance against the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists which were crowned by the victory of Dien Bien Phu and the Ho Chi Minh campaign. These are immortal epics that have forever gone down in the history of the nation as the most shining landmarks elevating Vietnam to the heights of our time.

With those victories, we have successfully defended our national independence, reunified the country, and actively contributed to the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in the world, and in particular to the promotion of the national liberation movement among colonial peoples.

Since 1975 with the regaining of total independence and reunification of the country, our revolution has entered a new phase, that of nationwide socialist construction. Our people have held patriotism and revolutionary heroism, spared no efforts in overcoming numerous difficulties and have recorded considerable achievements in the cause of national construction and defence, and fulfilled our international obligation.

The past 15 years have been eventful and fraught with major challenge and countless difficulties. They also have witnessed our great endeavors in healing the wounds of war, rehabilitating the heavily damaged economy, gradually establishing new relations of production, throwing [as received] the initial technical and material foundation of socialism, promoting the development of culture, science, education and health, establishing and consolidating people's power throughout the country.

Production has made fair progress. Comparison of figures of [words indistinct]. And of 1976 [words indistinct], national income by 52.9 per cent, total export volume by 718.2 per cent, industrial output value by 102.5 per cent, agricultural output value by 62.8 per cent. Food production (paddy equivalent) reached 21.44 million [metric] tons in 1989 i.e. an increase of 7.95 million tons compared with 1975. 320,000 university graduates, 4,800 post graduates, 503,000 vocational school graduates and 1.4 million technical workers have been added to the management and technical staff. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 1430 GMT and 2300 GMT on 1 September carries a 15-minute "first part" and an 11-minute "excerpt" respectively of the recorded speech that provide the following variation on the preceding paragraph: Compared with 1976, production in 1989 made fair progress, with gross social products increasing by 80 percent; national income by 52.9 percent; industrial output value by 102 percent; and agricultural output value by 62.8 percent. In 1989, we produced 21.44 million metric tons of grain—in paddy equivalent—that is, an increase of 7.97 million metric tons compared with 1975. The total value of imports and exports went up by 717 percent. Compared with 1975, 320,000 university graduates, 4,800 postgraduates, and 500,000 vocational school graduates, and 1.4 million technical workers have been added to the scientific, technical, and management cadres.]

Our achievements have been considerable. However, the party and the state have made a number of mistakes in policy and strategic guidance such as: haste in socialist transformation, attempting to abolish immediately the multisectoral economy, intensifying the pace of industrialization while necessary premises had not been created, slowness in renovating the system of economic management. Little general readjustments of prices, wages and monetary system due to lack of necessary caution in their implementation have further worsened socio-economic difficulties in our country.

The sixth party congress severely criticized the above failures and shortcomings, and mapped out the general direction of all-round renewal in the cause of socialist construction in our country.

Over the past three years' implementation of the resolution of the sixth party congress, our people have achieved initial yet very important results in the progress of renewal. There have been notable improvements in the socio-economic situation: sizable productive potentials have been further tapped, particularly in agriculture, inflation has been curbed, the new economic management is taking shape and its impact begins to make itself felt, the life of the majority of the population has been to some extent improved. Democratization in the economic, political, cultural and ideological fields has brought about a new climate in society. This has helped restore gradually the people's trust in the leadership of the party and in the management of the state. Security and national defence have been firmly maintained. The initial achievements of the renewal process during the past three years indicate the appropriateness of the road we have been taking. Yet this is no reason to be complacent. The results and progress achieved so far are yet to prove their sustainability, the socio-economic situation is still riddled with acute difficulties, new problems are compounding old ones that have not been resolved.

Advancing to socialism is the necessary trend of the Vietnmese revolution: National independence and socialism have been the two closely inter-woven objectives in our people's struggle during the past 60 years and will be so in the future. The road charted by Uncle Ho and chosen by our people is in accordance with the general trend of our time.

Our country's transition towards socialism started from a semi-feudal colonial society with a basically self-contained small production economy, that has not yet gone through the stage of capitalist development. The country moreover has suffered from several destructive wars which have left behind heavy consequences. The cultural vestiges of colonialism, feudalism and patriarchy have not been totally rooted out.

The international situation is going through a most complex phase. The acute crisis in the socialist countries of Eastern Europe has had a non-negligible impact on the process of socialist construction in our country. Hostile forces are carring out many sabotage activities against our efforts to build and defend our country.

However, in effecting its transition towards socialism, our country also enjoys fundamental assets. Once again independent and unified, our country has entered the phase of peaceful construction. Our people have a tradition of heroism, industry, intelligence, creativeness and humanity. The scientific and technological revolution and the trend towards internationalization of the world economy are now offering great opportunities for the development of our nation; our party shows political steadfastness and is pursuing a judicious line of renewal.

Our economy at present is still battling with extreme difficulties and has yet to be stabilized because of its very low starting point, the heavy sequels of war and the errors in economic policies and option during may years. We are now facing the fact that our level of economic development and the people's living conditions remain too low. Such is the critical reality and the great challenge confronting our whole nation.

We are determined to surmount all difficulties to advance forward along the road of renewal. The guiding principle of renewal is the promotion of the spirit of resilience, industry and thrift in nation-building, the release of all forces available and the tapping of all potentials, so as to secure stability together with swift development along the socialist direction.

It stands to reason that the continuation of the renewal process constitutes an imperative need and a vital issue for our country. Ours is a principled implementation of renewal. That is a creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of our country. Renewal in order to build up socialism more effectively, not to renounce socialism. It is therefore necessary, in the course of renewal, to fight against deviations from the socialist path and against denial of the great achievements that our people have gained earlier through their revolutionary struggle at the price of untold hardships and sacrifices.

Renewal is a process that consists in identifying and providing timely and appropriate solutions to various contradictions arising from actual life thus ensuring the harmonious and balanced development of the economy, society and politics, of democracy and law, of leadership by the party and mastery by the people. Renewal is aimed at stability and development, and inversely, stability and development will further step up renewal.

Socio-economic renewal must go in parallel with the establishment of a new mechanism of increasingly effective management both in the economic and the social spheres.

Our renovation is a comprehensive and synchronous process but we have to take appropriate steps, aimed at selected targets and define the main links for each period of time. The relationship between economic renovation and policical renovation must be properly handled. The need for renovation in our country arises first of all from our economic activities. Only through economic renovation, hence the gradual improvement of the people's living conditions, can popular confidence in the cause of renovation be created. Successes in economic renovation will create favourable conditions to renovate the political system. However, political renovation cannot be left until the completion of economic renovation. We have step by step to renovate the political system so that along with the propulsion of economic renovation, political and moral unity of our people and society will be strengthened. Renovation will be impossible without the practice of democracy and the ensuring of the role of the people as the master of the country in national construction. Genuine democracy serves not only the interests of the whole population, but also those of each individual, and political and social rights of every citizen. A well practised democracy is a decisive condition to mobilize popular potentials, strength and intelligence for the setting up of a new regime and the achievement of national prosperity; democracy is both an objective and a driving force of the development of the new society. However, democracy must go hand in hand with law and discipline; it must not be separated from centralism. We oppose bureaucratic centralism but not democratic centralism.

Carrying out successfully the renovation is the common task of our party, people and Army. With many initial achievements made and practical lessons acquired in the recent period, our people will certainly gain greater successes in carrying out their renovation task.

As the renovation initiated and led by our party expands on the whole spectrum of society, the enhancement of the role and the efficiency of the state becomes a more urgent requirement.

We are building a state of the people, by the people, and for the people. All powers belong to the people under the leadership of the party. This state must be equal to the requirements of the development of all aspects of the society, raise the people's living standards, preserve political security and maintain public order and social safety, consolidate national unity and international solidarity and ultimately bring about national prosperity and a happy life to the people.

We must strive to successfully build a strong and firm state, in which the people have full rights as the master of the country. Clearly, our state at the present time still has many mistakes and shortcomings and has not been able to fulfill the requirements of our new tasks.

In this connection, we should mention, first of all, the negative impact of bureaucracy, the managerial mechanism based on state subsidies which has weighed upon the apparatus and function of our state for so long a time. Bureaucracy has prevented state organs sometimes from acting as agents of people's power and protectors of the citizens' legitimate interests; the pursuit of special rights and privileges and corruption in not a small number of state cadres and employees at every level, especially in economic institutions and establishments, have caused heavy losses economically and culturally and an adverse effect on the political, spiritual and moral orders of our society.

That is why the struggle against bureaucracy and corruption, for the time being, has become an urgent task of our party, people, and Army whose aim is to purify the state apparatus and cultivate healthy social relations.

Law has not really become the state's main instument for economic and social administration and for the protection of the people's right to mastery. While we stand for a vigorous development of a commodity economy and dynamism and diversification in production and business operations by all sectors so as to rapidly increase products to meet the demand of the society, we fail to come out timely with specific legal stipulation to direct and control those activities so as to make the society develop in a dynamic fashion but in strict accordance with the law and policies so as to prevent confusion and disorder. It is our retardations and shortcomings in legal and procedural matters that have created loopholes in business operations and other activities giving rise to negative phenomena, allowing speculators, smugglers, tax evaders and corrupted cadres to make use of the dereliction in state management to embezzle properties of the people and the state.

In order to do away with the said weaknesses and to build a strong and firm state, we must carry out the following tasks:

First, we must strengthen the leading role of the party in the activities of the state. We cannot talk about management by the state, mastery by the people without the party's leadership. The party performs its leading role in the framework of law. The party puts forth its programme, line, strategies and tactics to provide orientation for the state in making laws and policies. Through the activities of its members in state organs, the party demonstrates its political viewpoints and policies. The party leads the state but does not take on the work of the state managing and administering organs.

Secondly, our state administers society by the instrumentality of law. Law must become an effective instrument of the state to administer all social activities, ensure the implementation and protection of democratic freedoms of people, maintain and regulate social relations. Law must be applied on an equal footing without any exception. Party members must be exemplary before the mass in observing law, respect the work of state organs and legal institutions. The party uncompromisingly fights against all erroneous manifestations such as the abuse of high position and power to interfere in the work of administrative and judicial organs.

Thirdly, we have to build a fitting and well-proportioned state apparatus. We must try to do away with a cumbersome and ineffective apparatus, bureaucratic practices in a section of cadres and state employees such as standing aloof from the people and realities, stagnation, buck-passing irresponsibility towards the people and disregard for law and discipline of the state. In this regard, we must start from the actual requirements of work to set up the apparatus, and assign the cadres in the most efficient way. We must continue to renovate the organization system, rearrange state organs at both central and local levels, rapidly stabilize organization, enhance the work of supervision, settle in time new issues without causing big upsets thus adversely affecting production, work and people's life.

It is necessary to train a contingent of well-qualified managers and professionals who are also required to have the virtues of integrity, disinterestedness, devotion and sense of responsibility.

Fourth, we must step by step improve our new economic and social administering mechanisms with a view to developing the comodity economy, tapping all potentials and encouraging active participation from all economic sectors, and enhancing the pivotal role of the state sector. It is necessary to make a distinction between state administration versus production and business management and also to construct a new management mechanism in planning, financial, banking and pricing affairs and to enhance the role of macro-economic directors as to help the production and business establishments solve their problems. The state must be responsible for the progress of education, health care, cultural and social activities, for the enhancement of the people's cultural standard, the fostering and employment of talented persons and the cultivation of good social relations and a healthy way of life.

It is also necessary to review in time new policies and regulations enacted since the 6th party congress thereby discovering improprieties and propositions inconsistent with realities which may lead to loopholes for abuses and negativeness in social, cultural and economic activities and to adopt measures to amend and rectify them.

Fifth, our state must be imbued with democratic ideals and truly represent the people. It must serve the people, keep in touch with them, respect them, listen to and have confidence in them. Criteria and a code of conduct are to be worked out for the state functionaries and employees in their discharge of duties and services to the people and shall be made public for the people's supervision and inspection. The people must be well received by state organs and their legitimate requests and proposals must be promptly met and settled.

Our state is required to do its best to ensure a full exercise of the people's right to mastery, combat all acts of violation of citizen's democratic freedoms, at the same time prevent tendencies to formal or anarchist democracy, fight all forms of bureaucratism, abuses of power and anarchy, do away with all deviations of democracy such as the separation of democracy from law and social order, of the people's rights from their duties of the citizens, and of democracy form dictatorship.

To build a socialist state is in essence to build a power that will ensure genuine democracy, take care of the people's life and protect them and create conditions for them to participate in the administration of national affairs.

Sixthly, our state must do its utmost to build a strong national defense and security force to safeguard the country, protect the socialist regime, and maintain national security and public order. Our national construction is facing big challenges and not a small number of hardships and obstacles. Life is confronting our party, state, and people with hard and complicated tasks.

The most important task having both fundamental and pressing characters for our whole party and people to fulfill is to bring into play all favorable conditions, overcome all difficulties, increase production, practice thrift, tap every moral and material potential of society in order to accelerate the economic growth tempo and to obtain higher economic productivity and efficiency.

All efforts of the country should be concentrated on successfully implementing the 1990 socioeconomic plan. First and foremost, we must strive to fulfill our tasks in agricultural production, especially in the production of food and foodstuffs. State bodies, economic establishments both state-owned and collective, must ensure appropriate material conditions for agricultural production, first of all the supply of fertilizers and insecticides and irrigation measures. Measures should be promptly taken to rectify the purchase and sale of foodstuffs and to better organize distribution of food and commodities, to control strictly the export of cereals so that our people's needs of food and foodstuffs are steadily satisfied.

The pressing problem for industries and handicrafts and small-scale industries is how to get funds available for production, including current capital and capital for long-term investment. The authorities of various branches and localities should try their best to help economic units in their realms solve the question of current capital by minimizing spending, quickly recycling capital and better handling the disposal of products. At the same time, we should try every way and means to ensure uninterrupted supply of materials for industrial production. Effective measures must be taken to protect home manufactured goods. The redisposition of industries, especially locally-run, handicraft and small-scale industries must be kept up. It has been proved by reality that enterprises which adopted new technology and improved their organization and management of production are doing well in their field. New mechanism of economic management does not permit prolonged deficit, sluggishness and dependence on state subsidies; enterprises which failed to adapt themselves to the new mechanism and overcome temporary problems are to be reshuffled and in worst cases, be dissolved.

Attention must be paid to strengthening the new production relations, enhancement of the pivotal role of state-owned economy, consolidation and development of collective economy and encouragement of economic expansion by other sectors as guided by law. The free rein method of management in state and collective agricultural, industrial, and commercial establishments must be abolished. As regards the circulation of goods we must strengthen, first of all, state commerce and consumer cooperatives, and overhaul businesses and services in order to stabilize market and price. State control over non-state commerce establishments must be strengthened to ensure that they strictly observe law and take the defined path. Businesses and services beneficial to development of the production and people's livelihood must be encouraged. We must firmly control the influx of foreign goods, especially smuggled and tax-evaded goods. We are resolved to fight all hoarding, trafficking and unregistered businesses of any branch, organization or individual in every economic sector.

External economic activities must be expanded, its efficiency be increased. The increase of export must go along with the increase of production of import substitutes.

The import-export trade must be reorganized. The import-export procedures and foreign currency control must be modified. We must help export-goods producers in marketing research and other issues of production and sales, thus enabling them to increase their export turnover. The dispersed and overlapping patterns of the import-export trade and economic rivalries for internal and external clients must be done away with.

Financial and monetary problems are aggravating. Close control of finance and budget and strict observance of revenue regulations are pressing problems and tasks of prime importance for state organs and economic establishments.

It is a permanent duty of state organs to supervise and inspect production and business activities of various economic sectors, whether they are state, collective or private, in order to take in all remainders and backlog for the budget.

At the same time, the state must make a thorough review of its spendings so as to adopt a right and effective use of our limited and constrained financial sources, concentrate capital and material supplies on key state projects and on projects of quick benefit, and unreserved by suspending the construction of projects that are not scheduled and not yet necessary.

At present, the economy of our country is yet to overcome the period of difficulties, with inflation still at a high rate. To fight effectively against inflation, key measures, along with increasing production and economic effectiveness, should include effective mobilization and exploitation of revenue sources state budget, strict accounting with regard to spendings, including expenditures in production, building and living. The state is to reduce to the lowest possible level administrative expenditures and abolish those just for the sake of showing-off or formality. The state must also strive to enhance its control and supervisory functions and adopt resolute measures against all acts of embezzlement and waste and all spending inconsistent with state policies and regulations.

Remedy measures must be taken urgently with regard to banking activities. Discipline must be restored in the management and use of cash funds in state offices and economic establishments. Misappropriation of funds from each other by production and business units and prolonged failure of debt repayment must be resolved quickly. Consequences of the losses and bankruptcies of non-state, credit cooperatives must be effectively dealt with. The state bank must try to regulate monetary circulation in the whole country, ensure sufficient funds for production and business needs, and adopt appropriate measures to mobilize potential funds and cash from the population. The control of foreign currency exchange and business must be improved, thus ensuring the state's unified control through banks of foreign exchange. Foreign currency must be used economically; not a single penny shall be wasted. The use of foreign currency shall be solely for the essential needs of the national plan and people's life.

Some of the cultural and social activities are encountering difficulties. Objective factors account for part of the situation, but subjectively, the mistake has been the slackening at times of our guiding and administration of these actvities. Recently, the state adopted concrete decisions with a view to improving the situation, resulting in some changes for the better in the fields of education, health, culture, communication, press and publication. The state will have to make still greater efforts in this connection, effectively solving problems regarding budget, investment, policy, organization and management so as to achieve a betterment of our educational, health and cultural works.

State policies regarding distribution of income and welfare must be improved to encourage all people to develop their creativity and talents and to work industriously and efficiently. Radical improvement of the payment system must be started to make salary indeed a driving force for labor efficiency. For the time being, a regime of state-subsidy for high-cost living will be applied for salary earners in the public sector, servicemen, retired employees, and social welfare beneficiaries to help reduce their difficulties. Better care will be taken for the benefit of families of the fallen combatants, war invalids, army patients, families of persons who have made contributions to the revolution, retired employees, etc... both in their material and spiritual life, and assistance will be accorded to the aged without families or supporters, the handicapped, children, and orphans.

These urgent economic and social tasks must be carried out in combination with the struggle against corruption, directed first against speculation, smuggling, embezzlement, bribery, deliberate violations of laws and policies, wasteful use of state money, assets, and properties.

The fight against corruption is a complicated one that requires the combination of educational, administrative, and economic measures and a close combination of the control, supervision, and settlement by the state with the educational, supervising, and control activities by the mass organizations, and with a strong campaign by the people against corruption. State offices and agencies must carry out a thorough review of economic and social administering mechanisms, try to make them sound and get rid of shortcomings or loopholes that can give chances for abuses by ill-intentioned elements.

It is necessary to try immediately and seriously before law courts serious cases of fraud and speculation, embezzlement, bribery, and waste after proper procedures of investigation and ascertainment. To the extent they have been ascertained, offenses must be sanctioned without delay and publicly to serve as preventive example for other people. Any act of fraud and speculation, bribery, embezzlement, and other behavior harmful to the interests of the people and society must be regarded as crimes and severely dealt with according to the law and morally condemned.

The present situation and tasks require that all levels of the party leadership and of the administration further heighten their sense of responsibility, show great initiative and dynamism in their guidance and management while at the same time upholding discipline in strictly implementing party resolution and state decisions, criticising and rectifying acts of and tendencies to laxity and arbitrariness which for personal or narrow interests breach general party policy and state law.

In their history of revolutionary struggle, our people have always been deeply conscious of the inseparable link between each of our victories and the profound sympathy and disinterested assistance of froreign fiends, as well as the militant solidarity and effective help of the Soviet, Chinese, Lao, Cambodian peoples and other peoples of fraternal socialist countries and of all progressive forces in the world.

Today, in our country's process of renewal, the support and assistance of international friends still assumes great significance for the development of our country. With consistence, we express our gratitude to peoples and friends across the world for their precious support, solidarity and assistance.

Our party, state and people continue to carry out a consistent foreign policy of peace, friendship and cooperation. It is our earnest aspiration to see peace, stablity, security and prosperity ensured for all nations. Our policy is to coordinate through dialogue and cooperation between countries with different political systems common efforts to solve problems arising in the region and in the world, thus contributing an active part to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. Our policy is to open up economic and scientific and technological cooperation with all countries on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect of national independence and sovereignty.

We continue to steadily consolidate the special solidarity and cooperation between our people and the fraternal Lao and Cambodian peoples. We support the principled and goodwill position of the State of Cambodia as well as the latter's peace and constructive initiatives and those of other countries and international organizations in the settlement of the Cambodian question through peaceful means and negotiations.

We are firmly confident that the great Soviet people, upholding the banner of the October Revolution, will overcome all present trials to ensure the continuation of perestroyka so as to successfully build socialism. Our belief in the final victory of socialism remains unchanged for socialism is the path to progress and civilisation in keeping with the law of history's evolution.

It is our desire to normalize relations with China in the interest of the two peoples and for the sake of regional as well as world peace.

We welcome the statement made on 28th August by the Chinese Prime Minister, Mr. Li Peng, at the 15th session of the 7th Legislative of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Congress: "Vietnam is a neighbour of China. Together with a fair and reasonable political solution of the Cambodian problem, China is prepared to hold talks with Vietnam on the normalization of their mutual relations".

We wish also to convey friendly greetings to the American people and express our goodwill regarding the establishment of normal relations with the United States.

Vietnam will spare no effort to take part in the promotion of cooperation, security and progress in Southeast Asia as well as in the world.

Vietnam will do its utmost to contribute to the cooperation and the maintenance of security and progress of Southeast Asia and the world.

We support the struggle of all peoples for the safeguarding of national sovereignty, promotion of democratic values, for genuine independence and freedom, lasting peace, cooperation and mutual assistance in advancing towards a prosperous and happy life.

We express our deep concern over the crisis in the Gulf and our wish that this crisis will be settled as soon as possible by peaceful means and within the Arab framework on the basis of international law.

On this grand anniversary, the more we comprehend about the great dimensions and historic significances of the August Revolution and the Proclamation of Independence (September 2nd), the greater pride we take in the Communist Party of Vietnam and the heroic Vietnamese people, who, bringing into full play the tradition of "unity and still greater unity" have made a history of heroic and glorious exploits and ushered in a new era, the era of national independence and socialism in our country.

Faithful to the scientific revolutionary theories of Marxism-Leninism and to President Ho Chi Minh's behest and persevering in the cause of socialism, our party, people and Army, strengthening their unity around the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, led by respected Comrade General-Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, are determined to overcome all difficulties and obstacles, march forward, achieve new victories and bring our renovation to success, all for the well-being and happiness of our people, for a bright future of our beloved fatherland.

—Long live a peaceful, united, independent, democratic and prosperous Vietnam!
—Let's push forward our renovation along the socialist path!
—Let's warmly welcome the 45th anniversary of the National Day of Vietnam!
—Long live the glorious Communist Party of Vietnam!
—Great President Ho Chi Minh lives on in our cause!

Australia

Minister Arrives in Beijing, Defends Visit

BK0209072290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] The first Australian minister to visit China since last year's military crackdown on the country's democracy movement has arrived in Beijing and immediately defended his trip. The minister for trade, Dr. Neal Blewett, began by arguing that Australia could not ignore one of the region's most important countries. He said Australia is part of the Asia-Pacific region [words indistinct] special case.

Dr. Blewett, who is in China for a week, is to hold two days of talks with Chinese trade and economic ministers. However, Radio Australia's Beijing correspondent, Kate Wall, says Australian officials are stressing that the visit does not signal a return to business as usual in relations between the two countries.

New Zealand

Departure of Women, Children From Iraq Delayed

BK0109055990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0251 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] Wellington, Sept 1 (AFP)—Exit visas for New Zealand women and children trying to leave Iraq and Kuwait may take days to process because of delays caused by hundreds of other applications, a government spokesman said Saturday.

All foreigners caught up in the gulf crisis were facing similar problems, Ministry of External Relations Spokesman Malcolm McGoun told the NEW ZEALAND PRESS ASSOCIATION. "I don't know how many hundreds we are talking about. It obviously creates pressure on the office issuing visas. It will take some time," he said.

There are 12 New Zealand women and three children trapped in Iraq and Kuwait.

Mr. McGoun said he had heard reports that western women and children would have to write letters seeking permission to leave but New Zealand authorities had not been told of this officially. "It may be two days yet before we have anything concrete," he said.

Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer confirmed Friday that New Zealanders would be included in any airlift organised by the British government for its own nationals.

Papua New Guinea

Troops Sent to Buka Island off Bougainville

BK3108065990 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Papua New Guinea troops are preparing to get ashore on Buka Island, off the northern tip of Bougainville. Radio Australia's correspondent, Sean Dorney, reports from Port Moresby that the government of Prime Minister Mr. Namaliu, maintains that the soldiers will be involved in civic action works associated with the restoration of services on Bougainville.

However, Dorney says the move threatens to undo the Bougainville Accord aimed at achieving peace on the island. Dorney says the plan is to put 70 soldiers and 30 riot police ashore at Buka, to begin restoring essential services on that island which is separated from Bougainville by only a narrow strait.

Sean Dorney says that two days ago Mr. Namaliu emphatically stated that no security forces would go ashore on Bougainville itself. However, he avoided directly answering questions about Buka beyond saying that the attempt to restore services would be abandoned if government teams were met with force. At the accord talks, on New Zealand warships off the Bougainville coast early this month, the Bougainville leader said they would guarantee security. They warned that there could be further bloodshed if the Papua New Guinea's Defense Force was to return.

Rebels Object to Presence

BK0109113390 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Sep 90

[Text] The attempt by Papua New Guinea to restore services to Bougainville has stopped because the secessionists on the island have objected to the way it was being done. A small fleet including (Landim), (Partisan), patrol boats from Papua New Guinea's defense force are now anchored off Buka Island while the secessionists wait for orders from their leadership.

Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent, Sean Dorney, says the attempt to restore services to Buka Island using Papua New Guinea soldiers and police in a civil action role went into trouble almost as soon as it started. He says the local Bougainville Revolutionary Army commander objected.

Dorney says there has been no fighting despite a few harsh words, and reports from the ships said that there had been a number of rounds of relatively amicable talks.

Hawke Arrives for Talks

BK0209072090 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Sep 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Hawke, today begins a five-day official visit to Papua New Guinea with the secessionist problem on the island of Bougainville sure to be a major topic for discussion. Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent, Sean Dorney, says Mr. Hawke will find Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Mr. Rabbie Namaliu, defensive about what appeared to have been a bungled attempt to begin restoring essential services to the blockaded island province.

Papua New Guinea troops and police were sent to Buka island off Bougainville on Friday [31 August], but Dorney said that this brought objections from the local (?forces) and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army.

Ships Pulled Back

BK0509100990 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Sep 90

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG] is pulling its ships back from Bougainville to avoid any confrontation with the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA]. The ships have been sent to neighboring Buka Island in an attempt to start restoring services, but the BRA objected to the presence of Papua New Guinea troops and police on board. In a statement, the interim government of Bougainville accused Papua New Guinea of trying to invade, and claimed that the BRA had thousands of militants on red alert and it was just a matter of who fired the first shot. Sean Dorney spoke exclusively to PNG's foreign minister, Sir Michael Somare, who led the Papua New Guinea team to the peace talks which drew up the so-called Endeavor Accord a month ago.

[Begin recording] [Dorney] Mr. Somare, Mr. Kabui [interim government's justice minister and leader of Bougainville delegation to peace talks] has sent a statement back through from the Solomon Islands accusing that Papua New Guinea is attempting to invade Bougainville and breaching the Bougainville Accord. What would you (?say to that)?

[Somare] Well, this is not true. We have tried everything possible according to the Endeavor Accord. The Endeavor Accord specifically says that we will be helping and we want the Bougainvillean group [words indistinct] to help us.

Now, I believe apparently there is no dialogue right at the moment, and because of lack of communications, Kabui is assuming we are trying to force him and his delegation into a position whereby we are seen as trying to interfere. I want to make it quite clear to people of Papua New Guinea and to people elsewhere quite categorically that we are genuine in everything that we wanted to do, because in the first place when we said we wanted to bring the services, they—Kabui and his followers (?under the) BRA—do not have the facilities to be able to distribute equally to the people who are suffering from need of medicine, need of food, need of essential services.

We are only trying to help, and in our situation, Defense Forces and police are the only institutions that take commands from the top echelon, and we believe that with the... [changes thought] with having the Defense Force, we will be able to deliver the services that are required on the island of Bougainville as soon as practicable. But the problem has been that we could not get them to understand. Our defense people are not carrying any ammunition; they are not carrying any guns; they are not carrying anything. Yes, they are defense people, they wear uniforms, it is part and parcel of what the Defense Force is all about. I do not think the people of Bougainville—not Bougainville as a whole, but especially Kabui and his crowd—have understood our intention. They have misinterpreted—and they have always misinterpreted—the Papua New Guinea Government's intentions. [end recording].

Rebels Claim Breach of Accord

BK0509074990 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Rebel leaders on the Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville have accused the Port Moresby government of breaching the recently signed Endeavor Peace Accord. The self-proclaimed interim government on Bougainville says the central government's operation to restore badly needed food, fuel, and medical supplies to the island is an attempted invasion.

Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent, Sean Dorney, says the rebels have warned that shooting could break out at any time on the island.

[Begin Dorney recording] Passengers back from the Solomon Islands (?say) the interim government of Bougainville has accused Papua New Guinea of a breach of trust over its attempt to land troops on Buka Island in association with the first stage of restoring services to Bougainville.

Calling it an invasion, the interim government's justice minister and leader of the Bougainville delegation to the recent peace talks, Joseph Kabui, claims thousands of BRA [Bougainville Revolutionary Army] members throughout Bougainville are being placed on full red alert. It is just a simple matter, he says, of which side fires first. [end recording]

Australia's prime minister, Mr Hawke, on an official visit to Papua New Guinea has supported Port Moresby, saying that the government tried to restore services.

Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands Bans Entry of Bougainvillians

BK0509081390 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Sep 90

[Text] Solomon Islands has banned all Bougainvillians from entering the country. The minister responsible for immigration, Mr. Edmond Andresen, has directed that no more Bougainvillians be allowed in from Solomon Islands. Mr. Andresen said this means that regardless of where Bougainvillians come from, they cannot enter the country without the permission of the minister.

Radio Australia's Solomon's correspondent says the minister issued the ban following the deportation of a man from Bougainville associated with the island province's interim government.